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THE TIMES

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TV 'rape' woman is accused

Police officers interviewing a woman who told them she had ben raped by three men, accused her of lying and told her she could not have a medical examination until they were sure of her story. A film of the interview was broadcast last night in the BBC documentary, *Police* Page 3

Tokyo-Manila links strained

Tokyo's relations with Manila are tense after the Philippines admitted that its air force fired on a Japanese tanker. Manila said it suspected the ship was helping terrorists, and it had ignored orders to stop. There were conflicting claims on whether she was inside Philippines waters Page 7

Paisley on US TV shows

The Rev Ian Paisley succeeded in overcoming a bar on entry to the United States by appearing on two big breakfast television news shows broadcast from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's studios in Toronto. However, his first press conference in the city was hostile

Molyneux pledge, page 3

Brixton move by Whitelaw

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, and police officers, councillors and community representatives had a "constructive" two-hour meeting aimed at setting up a liaison committee in Brixton, south London, the scene of rioting last year. Whether the body should be statutory remains open Page 2

Court action over ACC

The Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes à Court could succeed by Thursday in his £36m takeover bid for Associated Communications Corporation. A High Court move today by director Mr Jack Gill, the dismissed managing director, to halt any transfer of shares is thought likely to fail Page 17

Neo-Nazis tried for murders

The trial of four neo-Nazis has begun in a maximum security court in Stammheim jail, Stuttgart. Manfred Röder and two others are accused of murders arising out of bomb attacks against immigrant workers. Page 5

Labour support in unions lags

The latest MORI poll indicates that more than half of Britain's trade union members believe the Labour Party will lose the next general election. About 36 per cent of those questioned said they would vote for the SDP-Liberal Alliance. One fifth favoured union affiliation to the SDP Page 4

Damper for French radicals

President Mitterrand of France has suffered his worst defeat in power with by-election losses and the constitutional curb on his nationalization programme. His balance of power is not immediately affected, and he may view the defeats as a damper on the more radical members of his party Page 5

Nkomo rebuff

Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Patriotic Front, the second party in Zimbabwe's coalition Government, has dismissed claims by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister and head of the Zanu (PF) Party, that talks would start to merge their parties Page 6

New orchestra

Supporters' clubs are being formed as part of a £1m project to set up a new professional full-time orchestra in the Midlands. The clubs will provide funds, publicity and audiences Page 4

French cancel

The FA have agreed to a request by France to cancel their international against England on March 24. France felt the match was too close to their World Cup encounter with England Page 21

Poles in secret talks with Solidarity to reform union

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 18

The struggle is on for the hearts and minds of Polish workers. The Government has been holding a series of secret talks with members of the interned Solidarity leadership to persuade them to head a new non-political, and therefore neutered, union.

At the same time, Solidarity activists still at large have been rebuilding the movement underground, with many former supporters, especially on the fringes of universities, returning to help.

One activist told *The Times* that Solidarity was now ready to produce a regular weekly newspaper, although most of the suspended union's printing presses had been seized after the declaration of martial law on December 13.

There was sufficient paper available and journalists were beginning to submit articles. Ironically, the purge of Solidarity members or sympathizers from newspapers such as *Zycie Warszawy* and *Kurier Polski* has created a rich source of information for the newspaper. The organizers are hoping to start publication to coincide with the resumption of the university term on February 4.

Communication among Solidarity members has so far been confined to irregularly produced bulletins of about two pages which give news of internees and the purges in the ministries and elsewhere. About four such bulletins are in circulation in the Warsaw region alone and there have been fears among Solidarity members that at least one of the bulletins contains "disinformation": planted false information that undermines the credibility of the other news sheets.

The dissemination of false information—as defined, of course, by the judiciary—is liable to between two and eight years imprisonment.

A Solidarity bulletin earlier this month carried appeals to potential underground organizers: "Create secret factory commissions, carry on collecting union funds and send them to the persecuted and their families, organize lists of those arrested or dismissed from their jobs for their trade union activity—with the addresses and names of their work places—and also people persecuting activists.

"Distribute leaflets and texts with accounts of events and with information giving examples of resistance. Write slogans on walls, leave the party, wear Solidarity badges, sabotage by scrupulous working to rule. Our weapon against their tanks is a snail."

There are signs that Solidarity members are following this advice. Slogans are being daubed on walls—especially in Warsaw's old town where the lighting is poor—though they are often painted out by the morning.

A visit to Cegielski engine factory showed workers wearing Solidarity badges. The latest party membership figures show that apart from a substantial number of expulsions (1,100 in three weeks) over a thousand others had been crossed off the lists, presumably at their own request.

Mr Larry Pressler, the American Senator who met Archbishop Josef Glemp, the Polish Primate, at the weekend, says the Church is becoming increasingly impatient with the entrenched positions of both sides. Speaking of Mr Walesa, the Primate is reported to have said: "He is determined that the party gets down on its knees and apologizes."

Mr Pressler, who serves on the Senate foreign relations committee, said Archbishop Glemp also remarked that he was unsure how long General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish military leader, would retain his position.

The underground is gathering strength above all because the Government has been unable to come up with an alternative trade union, and that in turn is largely because it has been unable to find a new leader. Mr Lech Walesa has remained stubbornly silent.

Official reports that the Government wants to release him are almost certainly true, he is a considerable embarrassment to the authorities. But the Government cannot afford to release him before he agrees to head the new union. To have Mr Walesa free and without a role would be too dangerous and he would no

Continued on back page, col 5

Peace on railways hinges on Acas

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Correspondent

The remaining hopes of averting a repeat of last week's two-day national train drivers' strike from tonight lie with fresh meetings called by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) for today.

The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen's executive will not, however, decide until this morning whether to allow Mr Ray Buckton, the union's general secretary, to attend the talks called by Mr Pat Lowry, Acas chairman.

The invitation to separate meetings, issued last night and accepted immediately by leaders of the other two rail unions and by the British Railways Board, came after a day in which Mr Lowry shuttled between all the parties in search of a possible basis for a compromise.

As rail services returned to about 75 per cent of normal levels after Sunday's one-day train drivers' strike, about 50 per cent of last night's Southern Region inner suburban services from London Bridge were cancelled because of unofficial action by about 40 guards. They were striking against proposals for flexible rosters which lie at the heart of the Aslef dispute, but on which their own union, the National Union of Railwaymen, have reached agreement with BR.

Last night Acas officials were reluctant to hold out strong hopes of being able to break the deadlock between Aslef and BR, which has withheld a second-stage 3 per cent pay increase because of Aslef's failure to agree proposals to end the eight-hour day.

A request for an emergency Commons debate on the dispute was rejected by the Speaker, Mr George Thomas.

BR showed no enthusiasm for a proposal floated in union circles outside Aslef and compatible with the statement by Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, that BR should pay the 3 per cent and that the rostering issue should then be put to binding arbitration.

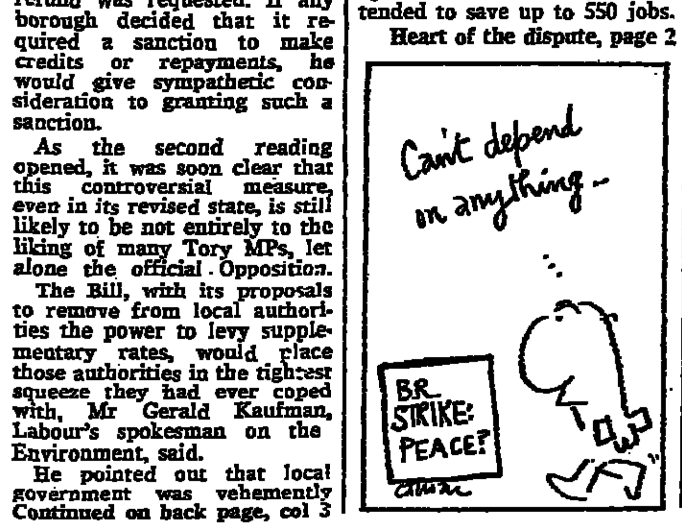
BR was understood to have made it clear that it would not pay the rise or shorten the drivers' working week to 39 hours without a commitment to the principle of flexible rostering.

Mr Buckton underlined the mood of pessimism by saying that Mr Lowry had indicated to him during talks yesterday that he "could see no way of resolving the dispute at present in conciliation terms".

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the NUR, said he was concerned that the industry was "bleeding to death"

BR said that flexible rostering stood to save them a potential 1,150 drivers' jobs. Successful negotiations on single manning by train drivers could save another 2,250 drivers' jobs. Flexible rostering for guards, already agreed with the NUR, was intended to save up to 550 jobs.

Heart of the dispute, page 2



Heseltine gives London boroughs extra £60m

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

The London Transport fares saga took another unexpected turn yesterday when Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, told the House of Commons that the block grant payable to the London boroughs in 1981-82 was to be increased by £60m as foreshadowed in *The Times* last week.

That resulted from the decision of the Greater London Council to reduce the level of the subsidy to London Transport to its former level, after the House of Lords ruling on the GLC's cheap fares policy.

Mr Heseltine, who was opening the debate on the second reading of the Local Government Finance (No 2) Bill, said that the increase was on the block grant as it would have been under the GLC's previous budget. The boroughs would recover the grant in February and March this year.

He would be taking steps to ensure that the necessary adjustments were made immediately in the supplementary rate support grant to be published later this month.

Mr Heseltine told MPs that the London Boroughs Association was advising individual boroughs to credit ratepayers who had paid the supplementary rates levied to meet the unlawful GLC precept, or to make repayments to them if a refund was requested. If any borough decided that it required a sanction to make credits or repayments, he would give sympathetic consideration to granting such a sanction.

As the second reading opened, it was soon clear that this controversial measure, even in its revised state, is still likely to be not entirely to the liking of many Tory MPs, let alone the official Opposition.

The Bill, with its proposals to remove from local authorities the power to levy supplementary rates, would place those authorities in the tightest squeeze they had ever coped with, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's spokesman on the Environment, said.

He pointed out that local government was vehemently

Continued on back page, col 3



Detectives examining the pavement as the body of Colonel Ray lies in the Boulevard Emile Augier.

American diplomat shot dead in Paris

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 18

The deputy military attaché of the American Embassy in Paris, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Ray, aged 43, was shot dead this morning outside his home in the smart residential district of Passy.

The diplomat, who is married *with two teenage children*, was walking towards his car, parked 100 yards away about nine o'clock when a gunman, stepped out from a hiding place, walked up to Colonel Ray and fired at close range. The bullet hit him in the back of the neck. According to doctors, he appears to have died instantly.

A passer-by who saw the body on the pavement alerted the *concièrge* of a neighbour-block of flats, who summoned the police. When an ambulance arrived a few minutes later, it was too late.

There was only one witness, a police officer who was going on duty at the time, but he saw the gunman only indistinctly, and from the back. He was short and with long hair. After pausing to ascertain that his victim was dead, the murderer strode briskly away up the tree-lined street.

Investigators of the special branch are being discreet about the evidence they have gathered so far, but it would appear that his description corresponds to that of the man of medium height and Middle Eastern appearance, who attempted to shoot the American Charge d'Affaires in Paris, Mr Christian Chapman, on November 12 last. Mr Chapman escaped death by diving under his car while the gunman fired six shots at close range.

The attempt to shoot Mr Chapman was also made as he walked from his home to his parked car, and the weapon used on both occasions was a 7.65mm revolver. One single cartridge case was found on the pavement this morning near to Colonel Ray's back.

President Mitterrand, who was entertaining Mr Evan Kenneth Galbraith, the new American Ambassador to luncheon today, sent a telegram to him this morning expressing his emotion over the "cowardly attack". He said the Government would spare no effort to shed light on the crime. The Prime Minister's office also confirmed that it would do everything to discover the author of this "odious crime".

☐ Beirut: A little-known Lebanese group claimed responsibility for killing Colonel Ray in Paris and said that it might strike again (Reuter reports).

The claim came in a letter in Arabic, signed by the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions and delivered to a news agency office in Beirut. The letter accused the United States of leading a "fascist, Zionist, reactionary alliance" against the Lebanese People.

A group with an almost identical name, the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions-Saleh el-Misri Group, claimed responsibility for the attack in November on Mr Chapman.

☐ Washington: The White House said the murder was the tragic outcome of the spread of worldwide terrorism (Our Washington Correspondent writes).

Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said later in a press statement that the murder "fills me with grief and sympathy for his family and friends and with revulsion for the assassin who killed him".

Mr Haig added: "It also strengthens my belief that terrorism is one of the most serious problems of our time and one which all civilized nations must redouble their efforts to combat."

He said this attack would not inhibit the United States from continuing to carry out its diplomatic activities

'Gormley has betrayed us'

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Arthur Scargill, the left-wing president-elect of the National Union of Mineworkers, yesterday as good as conceded defeat in the secret pithead strike ballot. He accused his old rival, Mr Joe Gormley, the retiring moderate president, of "an act of betrayal without parallel in the history of the NUM."

It now seems unlikely that the miners' executive will get the 55 per cent support from the men that is required under NUM rules before national industrial action may be mounted. Only a massive "Yes" from South Wales colliers, who vote today, could rescue the union leadership from the ignominy of being rejected by their members in the pits.

The miners' leaders gather in their headquarters in Euston Road, London, this morning in an atmosphere of political bitterness unusual even for them. Left-wingers are baying for Mr Gormley's job, and the Scottish craftsmen yesterday called on him to resign rather than wait until his formal retirement date of April 4.

But there will be an element of "I told you so" in the moderate camp, some of whose leaders argued from the first that the National Coal Board's 9.5 per cent pay offer was acceptable and should have been recommended to the men. Mr Gormley took that view, and his eve-of-poll message inviting miners to reject the militant path and take the £102m coal board package appears to have had a decisive effect.

Mr Scargill, who takes over the reins of power on April 5 after winning a landslide majority in a four-cornered contest last month, said yesterday: "The president's disgraceful conduct in openly urging support for coal board policy and opposing his own union is an act of betrayal without parallel in the history of the NUM.

"His use of the capitalist press to express his support of the coal board's pay offer and influence his members to oppose their own union can only be described as collaborationist. The NCB, who posted copies of Gormley's article [in the *Daily Express*] at pits throughout the British coalfield, knew how divisive intervention would be and the confusion it would create."

However, on a visit to the Yorkshire and Durham coalfields the week before Mr Gormley's intervention, I did not discover the overwhelming pressure for a strike that might have been suggested by the unanimous executive recommendation, and its subsequent 109—3 endorsement by a special delegate conference.

Many reasons were suggested by activists, and the coal board, for that marked reluctance to take on the Government. By present standards, the offer was regarded as good, even though it did not meet the inflation rate. The board's propaganda was pervasive and persuasive.

The passionate sentiments expressed during the mid-December breakdown of negotiations had cooled over the long Christmas break, and on an unsentimental level men broke after the holidays were attracted by the thought of up to £185 in back-pay due to them from the November 1 settlement date.

In a few areas, notably among Midlands craftsmen and in Leicestershire, local leaders came out with a recommendation against the executive line, and some of the moderate coalfield "barons" stayed in their tents in the run-up to the ballot.

No serious campaign could be attempted in traditionally militant South Wales, where the pits were deep in snow, and only in the heartlands of the left—Scotland and Yorkshire—was there an effective push to bring out the vote for the executive.

In Nottinghamshire yesterday, where the miners reverted to their customary moderation in the ballot, Mr Ray Chadburn, the area president, who had been spurned by his own members in favour of Mr Scargill in the presidential election, said: "I think all the miners will accept the vote, no matter how narrow it is, and that there will not be any bitterness in the coalfield. They are a sensible lot and will abide by the majority."

Voting breakdown, page 2

Missing second man in rail crash had clocked on

The second man who was supposed to be on the engineering train that was involved in a rail crash at Croydon, south London, on Saturday was named yesterday as Mr Nick Rolls, aged 22, of Penge.

British Rail confirmed that Mr Rolls had clocked on at 9.50 pm on Friday at Norwood Junction as assistant to the driver, Mr Steve Walton, who lost a leg in the crash.

Southern Region said Mr Rolls had been examined by a medical officer yesterday and found to be unfit for footplate duties. But he would be able to work on other jobs.

Rescue workers had been told that two men were trapped in the crashed train's cab, and spent hours cutting through wreckage searching for them. They were said to be angry to learn that only one man was involved.

It is understood that Mr Rolls signed on, but was at home in bed at the time of the crash. British Rail investigators are to hold an internal inquiry into the crash, and investigate why Mr Rolls was not on board.

Southern Region said later that senior railway officers had completed preliminary interviews with those involved in the collision except for the driver who was still too ill to talk.

It is understood the Department of Transport will shortly decide whether to hold a public inquiry. But a spokesman pointed out the fire brigade had emphasized that the search for him in the wreckage had not delayed the release of the trapped driver.

Prisoners strike in top prisons

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Selective strikes by prisoners in four top security jails yesterday indicated continuing unrest. The biggest stoppage was at Albany prison, Isle of Wight, by 270 out of 289 prisoners. In Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, 141 out of 245 refused to work, 16 at Long Lartin, Worcestershire and six at Hull, Humberside.

The prisoners refusing to work want parity with those in Northern Ireland.

A petition sent by Parkhurst prisoners in November to the National Prisoners' Movement (Prop) called for 50 per cent remission, their own clothing, weekly visits and two letters a week.

The protests began with a letter to *The Times* in May from a prisoner in Wormwood Scrubs. He wrote: "I should like to know why 'conforming' prisoners in England are entitled to one-third remission, even though they are better behaved and in most cases have been convicted of less serious offences".

The Home Office is refusing to budge, however, arguing that the two systems, on the mainland and in Northern Ireland, are not compatible.

Boeing 737s involved in 12 icing-up incidents, British pilots say

By Sarah Segrue

Boeing 737 aircraft, one of which crashed into a bridge in Washington last week killing 78 people, have been involved in 12 incidents in icy conditions since 1971.

Quoting figures compiled by Boeing for a seminar, Mr Terence Staples, the technical secretary of the British Air-line Pilots' Association, said yesterday: "The 737, from the evidence and from the accounts known in the industry, is particularly susceptible to this problem".

The first incident happened while Boeing was testing the aircraft in 1971. Two were reported in 1973, four in 1977, four in 1978, and one in 1979.

"All these incidents involved either roll or pitch motion beyond what one would normally expect in normal flight", Mr Staples said. *Balpa was not calling for* an investigation into the aircraft's performance in icy weather as that was being undertaken in the United States.

The Civil Aviation Authority has ordered an increase in take-off speed in icy conditions, although Mr Staples felt that all pilots should have been aware of the problem and acted accordingly.

"There are guidelines laid down to prevent icing, such as not using reverse thrust, which can throw up ice and snow, and not to follow too closely behind other aircraft while taxiing.

"There does not have to be a large deposit of ice on the wings. Even a small deposit, which might not be easy to see, on the leading edge of the wing can cause difficulties", Mr Staples added.

☐ The control tower at National Airport heard a "squeal" over the radio from the doomed Air Florida flight before it crashed into the bridge in Washington last Wednesday (Nicholas Hirst writes).

According to preliminary findings by the National Transportation Safety Board, the unusual noise was heard after takeoff and could indicate either an electrical fault or an attempt to communicate.

But the cause of the crash is still not known. Vital evidence was expected to be obtained yesterday from the aircraft's black box flight recorders, which divers were again trying to recover from the icy Potomac.

Speculation was centred on the possibility that ice built up on the wings and fuselage, preventing the aircraft from completing a normal takeoff.

But the pilot of a Lear jet, who saw the Air Florida Boeing 737 while taxiing on a parallel runway, did not see either snow or ice on the fuselage. A Braniff pilot, however, reported snow and ice on the tail and fuselage as the Boeing took off.

The safety board said yesterday that, contrary to previous reports, there were no tyre marks found on any of the cars hit by the jet before it plunged into the river.

Of the 50 bodies recovered, all except one died of the effects of the crash. The exception is Mr Arland Williams, aged 46, who drowned.

There is speculation that Mr Williams, a balding employee of the Federal Government, may have been the "hero" who passed on the lifeline from the helicopter to other survivors, only to disappear before it could return to pick him up.

Thatcher search bill waived

The cost of the search-and-rescue operation for Mr Mark Thatcher in the Sahara last week, estimated at £300,000, is to be met by the Algerian Government.

Mr Mouloud Ali-Khodja, counsellor at the Algerian Embassy in London, said yesterday: "The British Government has nothing to pay. There is no problem about the bill."

The two-day search, which ended in Mr Thatcher being reunited with his father in the desert, involved 10 aircraft, 20 cross-country vehicles, and units of the Algerian Army.

Four aerobatic pilots killed

Indian Springs, Nevada, Jan 18.—Four jets of the United *States* Air Force Thunderbirds aerobatic team collided in the air today during a routine practice flight at the Indian Springs auxiliary airfield of Nellis Air Force base. The pilots were all killed.

Six of the two-seater aircraft were taking part in an aerobatics manoeuvre when the four crashed.

Rate support anomalies cause councils concern

By David Walker

Evidence of apparently large-scale anomalies in the amounts of rate support grant payable to local councils is emerging as treasurers analyse the allocations given them recently by the Department of the Environment.

Labour-controlled Manchester City Council has claimed that it is being asked to make spending reductions of 14 per cent, entailing the loss of 5,000 city jobs, instead of the 7 per cent reductons which Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, had promised as a maximum.

The city's budget committee meets later this week to consider the consequences of such a cut in spending; councillors have meanwhile asked Mr Heseltine to meet a deputation.

Some of the Conservative shire counties have complained, too. The councilors of Buckinghamshire say that the minimum budget they can make for 1982-83 is between £9m and £20m in excess of government targets.

According to a leter circulaed to members by Mr Anthony Mogford, chairman of the policy committee, that budget would mean losing £12.5m of rate support grant, equivalent to 12.5p in the pound of ratable value: in other words, a big increase in rates.

Mr Mogford blamed his county's plight on flaws in the rate support system introduced by Mr Heseltine. The country's grant for 1982-83 did not take into account recent population growth.

Probably the most puzzling anomaly to come to light is the London Borough of Lewisham, controlled by moderate Labour councillors. Leisham either makes savings of £13m on a budget of £85m or raises its rate by upards of 60 per cent; neighbouring Lambeth, ith a similar population and social problems apparently no more severe, has been aarded a grant that has given Mr Edward Knight, the council leader, a choice between cutting the rates by up to 10p or expanding the council's employment.

Mr Andrew Hawkins, leader of Lewisham council, told *The Times* yesterday that his borough was being asked to lose the equivalent of 1,000 jobs. According to government figures, Lewisham ought to spend £70m in 1982-83. Councillors say that merely paying for the same services as in 1981-82 will cost £85m next year.

One Councillor, Mr Jad Adams, said that it appeared the Department of the Environment was awarding grants on the basis of last year's rioting. "We had no riots, partly because of the good work the council has done with the police and ethnic minorities in the area. Perhaps we should not have bothered", he said.

Lewisham's officials have given a warning against exceeding the Government's targets. In the new legal world which councils inhabit since the House of Lords' judgment on the Greater London Council's cheap fares policy, deliberately to spend more than the target and so lose government grants could mean a council facing legal action by ratepayers.

The law lords used a phrase about councils' "fiduciary duty" to their ratepayers. Mr Heseltine, his officials at the Department of the Environment, and a wide body of legal opinion concluded that spending above targets could be illegal under that doctrine.

Faced with unpalatable choices, and no explanation from the Government about why their grant has suffered, Lewisham councillors have given what one called "serious attention" to resigning before the borough elections in May.

☐ The borough of Solihull, West Midlands, yesterday took the first step in having the recent supplementary rate and cheap fares policy of the West Midlands County Council declared illegal, in an attempt to emulate Bromley council's successful action against the Greater London Council last month.

Mr Justice Hodgson in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court in London gave the Conservative-controlled borough leave to mount a High Court action. Solihull's case will be presented by Mr David Widdicombe, QC, who led for Bromley. Hearing could start within a week.

Solihull wants the court to declare illegal the supplementary rate of 14p in the pound levied by the county council, or at least that part of the rate hat was used to pay for a 25 per cent cut in fares in the buses and trains operated by the county council's transport executive.

The case is being brought under the Transport Act, 1968, which appears to give more scope for subsidies than the Transport (London) Act, 1969, which regulates the GLC's subsidies.

Race/Rastafarianism

Whitelaw acts on Brixton liaison

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, acted yesterday to form a liaison committee between the police and the community in Brixton, the scene of last year's riots.

He chaired a "constructive" preliminary two-hour meeting of more than forty police, councillors and community representatives which showed no dissent from the general aim.

A breakdown in liaison was included by Lord Scarman in his report as one of the steps which led to the disorders.

Mr John Tilley, Labour MP for Lambeth, Central, and one of the four local MPs at the meeting, said afterwards that he was glad Mr Whitelaw had realized it was a race against time. April was only weeks away, and it was in April last year that trouble flared in Brixton and the previous year in Bristol.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, said later that Mr Whitelaw had accepted the great bulk of the Scarman proposals and the spirit of the report. Liaison arrangements were a crucial area and Mr Whitelaw wanted to follow them up as soon as possible.

A preliminary meeting "in a couple of days" to propose an agenda would be followed by another full-scale meeting in a fortnight to discuss the chairmanship and the secretariat. The secretariat is likely to be permanent and professional. Similar bodies are envisaged elsewhere in London.

The Home Office will soon send letters to chief constables and police authorities outside London about liaison arrangements. The question whether they should be statutory remains open.

Mr Whitelaw, though said to be cool on the idea, has not ruled it out. Lord Scarman urged in his report that liaison arrangements should be statutory.

Mr George Greaves, Lambeth's principal community relations officer, said there was much support for statutory backing at yesterday's meeting.

☐ An official report to Lambeth council recommends that it reject three of Lord Scarman's main findings in his report on the Brixton riots. Meanwhile, it says, unemployment and housing prospects in the area are worsening.

The report, by Mr Stewart Lansley, chairman of the borough's community affairs committee, opposed Lord Scarman's finding that saturation policing "stop and search" operations and units like the Special Patrol Group cannot be wholly abandoned.

The report, to be presented to the council's policy and resources committee today, also rejects Lord Scarman's recommendation that overall control of the Metropolitan Police should stay with the Home Secretary and that water cannon, CS gas and plastic bullets should be available in reserve to police.

Mr Lansley's report calls for the creation of a powerful police authority for London, consisting of elected members of the Greater London Council and London boroughs.

To maintain strong links with London boroughs, borough police committees should also be formed, with local councillors and community representatives as members.

But the report wants the Government to implement in full many other key recommendations by Lord Scarman. Those include random checks by lay persons on interrogation and detention practices in police stations. The report also backs the formation of statutory liaison committees with "extensive and real powers".

Rastafarian faith 'valid religion'

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

A plea for Rastafarianism to be recognized as a valid religion and for Rastafarians to be allowed to enjoy full religious rights has been made by the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales.

In a report published today, the Catholic Commission for Racial Justice also urges that the Rastafarian style of dress, including the characteristic "dreadlock" hairstyle, should be accepted by society as "authentic religious expressions and legitimate cultural forms".

The Home Office in particular is asked to observe those principles, and a copy of the document is being sent to the Home Secretary by the auxiliary Roman Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev McCartie, the commission's president. The report gives instances of intolerant treatment by the Home Office, particularly over Rastafarian religious rights in prisons.

The document contains a long and sympathetic account of the origins of the Rastafarian movement in Jamaica.

Many of the symbols and the mythology of the movement can be accounted for as a positive response to the West Indian community's historical experience of enslavement, transportation, poverty, immigration to Britain and racial hostility by whites.

The churches are asked to grant to Rastafarians the same consideration that they show to non-Christian faiths generally, and the commission recommends that Roman Catholic premises should be made available for Rastafarian use.

Mr Basil Hylton, chairman of the commission, said at a press conference yesterday: "The Rastafarians easily can be treated as second-class citizens, without rights or dignity. We believe that Rastafarianism represents something positive and important to our society and we need to listen and to share our resources for the mutual benefit of the whole society".

Rastafarians in Jamaica and Britain (CCRJ, Church Hall, Amwell Street, EC1, 30p).



A Rastafarian with a portrait of Emperor Haile Selasse I, venerated as a god.

Science report

Photo fix prolongs lives of flowers

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The life expectancy of cut flowers has been increased by up to 20 days by scientists investigating ways of improving the yield and quality of crops and flowers grown under glass. The method of extending the life of certain varieties of carnations, which usually last at best between 10 and 14 days, was achieved by dipping the stems for half an hour into discarded hypo, the chemical mixture containing sodium thiosulphate used as a fixer in developing photographic film.

The discovery, by Dr R. Nichols and Mrs Carol Frost, is a by-product of studies at the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute at Littlehampton, Sussex, into the mechanisms that control the various stages of aging and growth of plants. They describe the unusual effects of a hypo elixir in the institute's annual report.

Their work was derived from earlier research in which new forms of pesticides were improved by incorporating very tiny traces of silver compounds. But the recent experiments, which used diluted quantities of hypo as a cheap source of silver salts, indicated that the protection provided by adding silver was more complicated than the growing of healthier plants safeguarded by a better pesticide.

The silver in the photographic chemical has been leached from the unexposed part of the film. But the amount in a photographic tank of hypo is many times more than that needed for treating cut flowers. The concentration of silver in a carnation is less than one part in a million.

Although this treatment of flowers to extend their vase-life is of commercial importance, the question of how it increases longevity remains unanswered. Analysis of sections of plants by electron microscopy shows the places in particular cells to which the silver atoms migrate. These are the sites responsible for the synthesis of ethylene, the naturally produced substance causing plants to wilt.

Since the production of ethylene is stimulated when the fruit of a plant has set and there is no need to retain the bloom to attract pollination, the action of silver is thought to suppress the hormone which triggers that process of senescence.

Better sick pay plan for the low paid

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The Government has responded to pressure for a better deal for the low paid by proposing a third, flat rate of employers' sick pay. The new "intermediate" rate is expected to be proposed today when the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill returns to standing committee.

As the Bill stands, employers would be compelled to pay a flat rate of £37 a week during the first eight weeks of illness to employees earning more than £60 a week. For those earning less than £60 the flat rate would be £25 a week.

The new rate to be discussed today would introduce an intermediate rate of £31 a week for employees earning betwen £45 and £60 a week. However, unlike the £25 rate proposed for them previously, the new rate would bring them above the level at which national insurance contributions become compulsory.

Mr Brynmor John, Labour spokesman on social security, said last night that that concession was far too little. It would add little more than £3 a week to the sick pay of a married man earning between £45 and £60 a week.

"The only fair system is to pay people either the full benefit of £37 a week or their usual wage, whichever is less. Only then can low paid workers feel they are getting a return for their contributions which is fair and able to afford them a chance of being sick without disaster to the family economy."

The Low Pay Unit said that about 1,500,000 workers would be entitled to the new rate of £31 a week.

MP demands fuel bill help for elderly

Immediate cash help for elderly people who cannot afford to keep warm was demanded yesterday by Mr Norman Atkinson, Labour MP for Tottenham. He urged Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, to investigate the feasibility of an energy rebate scheme, to ensure that all people on low incomes could receive some help with their heating bills.

Recent temperatures had created serious difficulties for the elderly who should be entitled to help, Mr Atkinson said. Those on pensions just above the upplementary benefit level were denied any help with heating bills either in normal winters or exceptionally severe ones.

New exam prospects uncertain

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is still undecided whether to go ahead with a single system of examining for pupils aged 16-plus foreshadowed by his predecessor, Mr Mark Carlisle, two years ago to replace the present CSE and O level examinations.

The publication of a document describing the Government's proposals for the new 16 plus examination, which has been ready in draft since last Ortober, is unlikely before next month.

Sir Keith is worried about the feasibility of examining such a wide range of ability under a single system, and its effect on recognized standards. Mr Rhodes Boyson, the minister responsible for schools, is strongly opposed to its introduction.

The joint council set up by the GCE and CSE examination boards to draw up national criteria for the syllabus, assessment techniques, and aims of the new examination, published draft proposals yesterday covering 20 different subjects.

The first draft criteria covering English, French, history and physics, published by the joint council last September, have been criticized, either for failing to reshape the curriculum, or for being too inflexible.

Heads of the joint council said at a press conference in London yesterday that the examination boards did not see it as their task to provide the Government with proposals which would set the pattern of the secondary school curriculum well into the next century.

Dr Pete r Andrews, a joint council member, said the Government had given indication that it was having second thoughts. "We have no grounds for thinking that they have gone cold on the exercise. I do not think Sir Keith easily makes up his mind."

☐ Incompetent teachers should be dismissed, not removed through redundancies, Sir Keith said in the Commons yesterday. He was seeking to clraify a speech at the north of England education conference

☐ Sheffield intends to abolish all sixth forms and replace them with open-access tertiary colleges, providing both GCE O and A level courses and other vocational courses. Similar proposals by Manchester were rejected by the Government last November.

RUNCIE BACKS BISHOP

The strong line taken by the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, over unauthorized services conducted by women priests in England received general support from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, yesterday (Clifford Longley writes). Dr Runcie said. "I believe he has dealt with this matter in a firm but pastoral way."

Dr Leonard issued a statement last week regretting the service of Holy Communion held by the Rev Elizabeth Canham in the Deanery of St Paul's Cathedral, London, before Christmas, and appealing for Dr Runcie's support.

BSC CASH REVIEW ORDERED

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, is calling for a complete review of the state industry's financial projections for 1982-83 in th ewake of losses caused by the weather and the rail strike (our Labour Editor writes).

But in talks with the TUC steel industry committee yesterday he firmly quashed suggestions that the Scunthorpe steelworks were to close. Steel union leaders, told that BSC's capacity of 14.4 million tonnes would be maintained, are nevertheless to go ahead with an overtime ban over pay next month.

As well as losses of between £50m and £100m caused by snow crippling operations at the Port Talbot, Llanwern and Ravenscraig works, British Steel said United States action to halt "dumping" of European products could rob the industry of a valuable export market.

WHIP QUITS

Mr Frank White, Labour MP for Bury and Radcliffe, has resigned from the Labour Whips' Office after what was described last night as an internal disagreement. He was the pairing whip, or third in command.

Scargill's old job may go to moderate

By Ronald Kershaw

The miners' ballot, which already points to a moderate outcome, is being watched keenly by the Labour Party in Yorkshire as an indicator to this week's voting in the ballot for Mr Arthur Scargill's old job.

Moderate Labour supporters believe that if a middle-of-the-road candidate is elected as president of the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, the left-wing miners' stranglehold on many constituency Labour parties may well be broken.

There are four candidates for the Yorkshire presidency but onl ytwo principal contenders, Mr Jack Taylor, Mr Scargill's vice-president, who has generally followed his left-wing line, and Mr John Walsh, the union's moderate North Yorkshire area agent.

The view of Labour Party moderates is that if Mr Walsh is elected he will urge the end of the left-wing practice of paying miners a subsistence allowance for attending caucus meetings held immediately before Labour Party meetings, thus ensuring a strong miners' presence.

Mr Walsh believes that political interests should not interfere with the primary wrok of the union, the wages, conditions and welfare of Yorkshire miners and their dependants.

Under Mr Scargill's rule, left-wing miners' delegates have ousted moderates from important positions on the management committees of several Yorkshire constituency Labour parties and have started a movement to replace moderate MPs and councillors.

It is feared that if Mr Taylor is elected he will continue the militant political line pursued by Mr Scargill, to thedetriment of the moderates. Part of the moderates' difficulty is drumming up support for Mr Walsh.

Electioneering is not permitted in the Yorkshire presidential election but Mr Walsh had protested that Mr Taylor is getting valuable publicity for his views on union policy in the *Yorkshire Miner*.

Labour Party and NUM moderates are considering the possibility of inviting Mr Walsh to branch and party meetings, simply to address gatherings. A branch official said last night: "There is no way this kind of thing could be construed as electioneering if an address was confined to matters of concern in the trade union movement".

Mr Walsh said last night: "I have made clear it is time we concerned ourselves with industrial rather than political matters".

The miners' vote — a coalfield breakdown

Area	Mem	1980 vote (for strike) %	Unofficial 1982 vote
Cokenran	5,100	20	against
Cumberland	800	31	against
Derbyshire	11,800	57	split 50-50
Durham	16,100	38	split 50-50
Kent	2,800	59	for
Lancashire	8,700	35	against, 60
Midlands	14,400	21	against, 70
Northumberland	7,500	30	against
N Wales	1,100	19	against
Nottingham	34,400	23	against, 70
Scotland	16,000	73	for, 70
Derbyshire	3,300	14	against
S Wales	24,600	67	vote today
Yorkshire	68,300	65	for, 70
Durham mechanics	8,400	26	against
Scottish craftsmen	4,500	62	for
Colliery official staff	19,100	12	against, 80
Midlands craftsmen	4,900	13	against
Yorks GMWU members	500	28	against

In 1980 the NUM executive recommended the offer, and the left campaigned for rejection. In the present ballot the executive recommended rejection of the offer and a strike if necessary.

Ordnance Survey proposal criticized

By Nicholas Timmins

Government proposals to set up a trading fund for the Ordnance Survey, possibly as a first step towards private control, were heavily criticized last night at a meeting organized by the Royal Geographical Society in London.

Speaker after speaker, from professional map users and makers to the Ramblers' Association, criticized the proposal, saying that the basic scale survey, on which all the 220,000 Ordnance Survey sheets are based, is an operation that will never be commercially profitable.

Instead, they argued, the survey is a public service that is a vital investment for the future.

Brigadier George Hardy, deputy director of the RGS and its curator of maps, gave a warning that the change to finance through a trading fund, rather than by direct Treasury vote, with the intention of allowing the survey's operations to be judged in a commercial framework, offered no advantages

It would place the permanent secretary of the Department of the Environment in the position of accounting officer, laying the Ordnance Survey open to future cuts in Civil Service manpower or spending.

The department would come close to managerial control of the Ordnance Survey and the judgment it made would be taken by people not trained in the profession.

There would be a tendency to concentrate on activities that would be profitable at the expense of public service activities, where the survey provides maps for public utilities, surveyors, land regitration and many other activities

Tory MPs renew drive against heavier lorries

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Conservative MPs began a new offensive last night to force the Government to drop its plans for heavier lorries.

As the Commons returned after the Christmas recess they were collecting signatures for a motion urging the Government drastically to amend the proposals contained in its White Paper, *Lorries, People and the Environment* published last month.

Eleven Conservative backbenchers voted with the Opposition on a motion rejecting the increases shortly after the White Paper's publication, and had hoped that their action would be enough to encourage Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, to go no further with his plan to raise weights limits from 32.5 to 40 tonnes.

But they have been alarmed by statements by Mr Howell over the recess in which they feel he has sought to justify the proposals.

Detailed regulations are to be introduced after a consultation period of two to three months. One of the leading opponents of the plan said last night that at least twenty Conservatives would vote against them unless radical changes were made.

SINDEN TO JOIN ARTS COUNCIL

By Christopher Warman
Arts Correspondent

Donald Sinden, the actor, is one of four new appointments to the Arts Council announced yesterday by Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts. The other three are Lady Digby, an organizer of the Bath Festival, Mrs Buchi Emecheta, the novelist, and Mr Albert Frost, a director of British Airways, Marks and Spencer, and S. G. Warburg.

Mr Channon also announced the appointment of Marghanita Laski, the novelist and critic, for further term. The appointments will run until March 31, 1986. There are still three vacancies for members of the Arts Council.

No appointment has yet been made of a vice-chairman to replace Dr Richard Hoggart, whose term of office was not renewed by the minister. Vice-chairmen are appointed by the council subject to the minister's agreement.

Answering questions in the Commons yesterday, Mr Channon denied that the ending of Dr Hoggart's term of office was a political decision.

LIBRARY APPEAL BY CALLAGHAN

By David Spanier

Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, launched an appeal yesterday to raise £600,000 in Britain to safeguard the Wiener Library, the famous collection of material on the Nazi period.

The purpose of the appeal is to maintain the microfilm copy and other material for the use of scholars and historians in London after the transfer of the original library to Tel Aviv, recently the subject of heated controversy in the correspondence columns of *The Times*.

Emphasizing the value of the library as a record of a shameful period, Mr Callaghan said that funds were urgently needed to match American offers of help. Its preservation and development in London would serve as a permanent reminder that such a period must never recur, he said.

Mr Alan Montefiore, deputy chairman of the library, said the appeal represented a survival fund.

Thaw brings new chaos to homes, roads and rail

By Tony Samstag

The slow thaw was little improvement on last week's freeze for tens of thousands of commuters, householders and public service employees yesterday.

Where ice, snow and freezing fog had made life a misery for travellers last week, it was mist, slush, burst pipes and the aftermath of Sunday's national rail strike that caused the chaos yesterday.

Mist and fog caused miles of tailbacks during the morning rush-hour around London, in the Midlands and as far west as Cardiff, where the fast lane of the M4 was closed. In Yorkshire, on Tyneside and on Teesside, visibility was cut to three yards in places.

The Duchess of Kent, who is Chancellor of Leeds University, had to cancel a visit there because of the fog. She had been due to unveil a memorial plaque to the late Lord Boyle of Handsworth, the former vice-chancellor.

Thousands of burst pipes and mains caused a water shortage in some areas of Yorkshire and the north Humberside.

In Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, where police said they had received hundreds of emergency calls asking for help with burst pipes, six elderly residents of a home in the Cobridge district had to be evacuated.

In Liverpool, where more than 150 people had to be evacuated to hostels or hotels,

On British Rail the Sunday strike, the overtime ban and the weather contributed to rush-hour chaos. In London Inter-City services from Euston and commuter services into Euston, St Pancras and Marylebone stations were cut.

Western Region, whose services were cut by about a third, was running hourly trains only from Paddington to Bristol, south Wales and the west of England.

Jobs at the heart of rail dispute

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

British Rail's statement yesterday that it was seeking to end 3,400 drivers' jobs in four years underlines the point that the present dispute is over more than drivers' hours.

The board has stood firm by its contention that it is ready to pay its 20,000 drivers a 3 per cent second-stage rise and reduce their hours to 39 a week when the union agrees to end the rigid eight-hour day in favour of a flexible working day of between seven and nine hours.

BR calculates that to implement the shorter week and pay the 3 per cent without winning the greater efficiency afforded by flexible rosters, would add 3 per cent, or about £4,160,000, to the annual wage bill.

With flexible rostering, which would add an estimated 15 minutes or so a shift to the time each man spends driving, BR believes it can cut up to 1,150 jobs at an estimated saving of up to £9m, and more than pay for the introduction of the 39-hour week.

Significant as that reduction is to a union whose membership has declined from about 77,000 after the war to about 27,000 now, both BR and the union are acutely aware that it is only the first of two stages by which the management is seeking to reduce drivers' jobs.

The second, which BR believes could save twice as many jobs and perhaps £40m in wages, is to limit the occasions when a second driver is in the cab to those when it would be dangerous for the driver to be on his own.

At present three quarters of trains have only one driver. BR would like to increase that by 5 per cent by 1985, through separate negotiations also provided for in the settlement which averted a national rail strike in August.

BR accepts that a second qualified driver should be on all high-speed trains.

But the board says it cannot begin serious negotiations on the "second driver" issue until it has agreement on flexible rostering, partly because the two subjects are linked. Under present agreements a second man in the cab is required when a shift lasts longer than eight hours.

British Rail emphasized yesterday that the figure of 3,400 jobs was a target and not fixed. It did not envisage compulsory redundancies; the reductions would be achieved through natural wastage, meaning the non-replacement of retiring drivers.

Flexible rostering and single manning are a relatively small part—in volume if not in significance—of the overall programme by which BR aims to shed 38,000 jobs between 1980 and 1985.

Last year 12,000 jobs were lost, of which 8,000 were on the rail network and 1,200 were footplatemen's. The main reductions last year were in ending door-to-door collection and delivery of parcels, and in reducing spare marshalling yard and exchange siding capacity.



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NEWS IN SUMMARY

London plea by Welsh activist

Mr Wayne Williams, the Welsh language activist who has been suspended from his job as a teacher at Llanidloes High School, in mid-Wales, yesterday visited the Department of Education and Science in London to put his case for reinstatement (Tony Samstag writes).

Mr Williams left prison at Christmas after serving six months for conspiring to damage broadcasting equipment. His suspension was the result of a High Court injunction granted to Mr Lawrence Smith, a parent, preventing Powys County Council from allowing him to teach until after a judicial inquiry.

No one would comment on Mr Williams's case yesterday. He was accompanied by officials of the National Association of Teachers of Wales. The Department of Education and Science said, however, that such meetings were routine if a teacher had committed a criminal offence or served a prison sentence.

Former Chelsea players charged

Peter Osgood, aged 33, and Ian Hutchinson, aged 33, former Chelsea footballers, were charged at Aldershot yesterday with receiving stolen soft drinks. It was alleged that the footballers, who now run the Union Inn at Crimphill Road, Old Windsor, Berkshire, committed the offence on December 16.

Osgood, who played for England, elected trial by jury at Winchester Crown Court, and Hutchinson asked for his case to be dealt with by Aldershot magistrates on February 22. They were granted unconditional bail.

This is the face of David Michael Hampshire, aged 33, who is wanted for questioning after the body of Julie Deakin, aged 18, was found in her bed at the weekend at Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire. She had been strangled. Police said one of the names used by Hampshire is Clark Kent. He is between 6ft 6in and 6ft 8in tall, and it is believed could be hiding in the countryside.

Club chairman on fraud charge

John Crawford, chairman of the Scottish first division football club, East Stirling, was charged yesterday with pretending to put forward proxy votes on behalf of four shareholders which were not genuine and fraudulently balloting 40 proxy votes at the election of club directors.

The case, at Falkirk sheriff court, continues tomorrow.

Inspector jailed for assaults

William Cunningham, a police inspector who assaulted two prisoners after drinking on duty, was jailed for a year yesterday at Oxford Crown Court (Our Oxford Correspondent writes). The court heard that Cunningham, aged 46, who had 24 years' service, lied to his superior officers after the offences.

Murder case woman freed

Shirley Brindle, aged 35, of Colby Path, Camberwell, south London, who was convicted of conspiring to prevent the lawful burial of a murder victim's body, was given an 18-months jail sentence suspended for two years and placed under supervision at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Brindle was cleared last week of involvement in the murder of Mr Donald Ryan, aged 49, whose body was cut up in her flat by Michael Ward, aged 28, and two other men, all of whom were given life sentences on Friday.

Jailed mother freed

Kamala Sakeria, aged 38, a Uganda Asian, of Morning Lane, Hackney, east London, who was jailed last June for five years for drug smuggling, had her sentence cut to two years and suspended by the Court of Appeal yesterday, when her fourth child was born in Holloway prison. The father, Raslid Kasujee, aged 41, had his sentence for a similar offence cut to three years.

Rape 'victim' is shown being harshly treated

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A police investigation of a rape case, in which the victim had to describe her attack to male detectives who questioned her about her sex life, accused her of lying and spoke crudely to her, was shown last night in BBC Television's *Police* series which was filmed with the help of Thames Valley Police.

The force's senior officers had previewed the film and on Sunday Thames Valley announced it was considering special units staffed by women to deal with rape complaints.

The detective who told the woman her story was the "bigest bollocks I have ever heard" was Mr Brian Kirk, who in an earlier programme was seen being demoted from detective constable to uniform duties. He was awaiting transfer from CID when the rape case was investigated.

He and other detectives were faced with a woman who had a history of mental illness and difficulties with the police. She claimed in a confused story that she had been roped by three men after being forced into their car.

During the 40-minute programme last night the woman was seen being told she could not have a medical examination until the police were sure of her story, and no attempt was made to pursue the men.

The woman agreed that she would not have gone to the police station, in Reading, if her boy friend had not made her. She finally signed a statement dropping the allegations.

When she first made her complaint she was questioned by a woman police constable and a male uniformed officer. The young woman officer was doubtful about the story, believing that sexual intercourse could have occurred with the woman's consent, and passed her feelings on to the detectives who took over the questioning.

The woman, whose face was never shown, or her identity revealed, said she had been threatened by the men outside a public house, bundled into a car and driven to a house. Subjected to threats, she was taken into a bedroom and raped by the three, she said.

Afterwards she was dropped off at a bus stop and went to a JobCentre to see about getting work before going home, where she told her friend about the rape. She told the police that if the matter had been left to herself, she would "probably be a bit moody and go to bed and forget about it".

In the course of questioning Det Inspector Michael Jessett asked the woman how many times she had had sexual intercourse, when she had last had it with her friend and if she had difficulty menstruating.

The police told her repeatedly about the difficulties she might have to face if the case came to court and asked whether ahe wanted to press the matter.

Eventually Sergeant John McIntyre told her he thought she had been a willing party to the sex and Mr Kirk said part of her story was a "fairy tale". Both accused her of not struggling to get away from the men or shouting. Mr Kirk, while using a crude analogy, congratulated her on her self-control.

While she was waiting to write the statement she told the BBCcamera crew that she could now understand why women did not want to pursue complaints of rape. She still maintained she had been attacked.

After she left, the police were shown discussing the case.

☐ A jury in an unconnected rape trial at Lincoln Crown Court was advised yesterday by the judge not to watch last night's BBC documentary, *Police* (Our Lincoln Correspondent writes).

Judge Richard Hutchinson was summing up on the tenth day of the trial in which four teenagers have denied kidnapping and raping a girl of 15. The jury's verdict is expected today.



Mr Stefan Staniszewski, the new Polish Ambassador to Britain, was in fine spirits when he visited the Labour Party's headquarters in south London yesterdsy in spite of his so far unsupported announcement about the release of Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity, suspended independent trade union. While waiting at Heathrow on Sunday for his wife to arrive from Warsaw he told an inquiring reporter that mr Walesa, held under house arrest near Warsaw since the imposition of martial law more than a month ago, would be released in "the very near future". As our Warsaw correspondent writes, the Polish military authorities want to release him but cannot afford the risk.

Yesterday Mr Staniszewshi was more circumspect in his remarks to reporters waiting for him outside the Labour Party building. He smiled broadly but refused to comment either about the future of Mr Walesa or martial law.

The purpose of Mr Staniszewski's visit was to meet Mr Ronald Hayward, the party's retiring general secretary. Last week the international subcommittee of the Labour Party criticized the military regime in Warsaw and called for an end to martial law.

The ambassador was welcomed by Miss Joan Lestor, chairman of the party's international committee, and Mr Eric Heffer Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton, who drafted the critical resolution.

Paintings by Sickert find favour

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

There was a sudden run on the work of Bernard Sickert at Phillips's sale of modern British pictures yesterday. While Walter Sickert is considered one of the "greats" of Twentieth-century British painting, his brother Bernard has hitherto been largely forgotten.

Like his brother, Bernard was a member of the New English Art Club. Phillips had a group of pastel views of the Thames in and around London for sale whhich are believed to have come from the artist's studio after his death. Phillips have sold other pastels from the same source, when £20 or so was a normal price. yesterday "Mortlake — view of the River" reached £300 (estimate £30-£50). That was the highest price.

The average price for a single pastel was about £95; that was realized, for instance, by "The scenic railway Strood Fair" (estimate £40-£60). There were not, however, enough buyers to carry them all off at top prices. The lowest price was £28 (estimate £30-£50) for two views on the river. One of the 26 lots remained unsold.

At Christie's King Street yesterday the first sale of the new year was devoted to English and Continental ceramics. The auctioneers were pleased and surprised at the strength of the bidding, which left the sale only 8 per cent unsold.

"A very encouraging start to the season". Mr Hugh Morley-Fletcher, who took the sale, commented, "There was hardly a lot sold against the reserve and the bidding often ran far beyond it."

The sale was devoted to nineteenth-century ceramics, an area in which the market was very uncertain last autumn. Hand painted Worcester vases were *running well beyond estimate*; a two-handled vase and cover painted with mountain sheep by H. Davis made £432 (estimate £150-£200).

Sèvres-pattern vases, richly ornate with ormolu mounts and romantic Boucher-type decoration, were well up again, though perhaps not quite back to the levels recorded four years ago at the height of the Iranian *nouveau-riche* spending spree. A pair of blue-ground, ormolu-mounted vases painted with lovers in rustic landscapes made £918 (estimate £400-£600).

The star price of the sale was £4,320 (estimate £600-£1,000) for a massive late Sèvres circula owl painted with meandering roses and dated 1854.

Star Wars bought for ITV showing

The cinema box office success Star Wars has been bought for the independent television network for £1,5m. It was released in Britain in 1977 and has since taken £150m all over the world.

Cigarette sellers strike back

The tobacco industry yesterday struck back at the taxman with the launching of a nationwide smokers' petition aginst any further increases in cigarette duty in this year's budget.

Hard on the heels of a £625,000 newspaper advertising campaign by tobacco companies in last Sunday's papers, representatives of 150,000 tobacconists and newsagents assembled in London to protest aginst what they see as the victimisation of Britain's 20 million smokers and to proclaim that with cigarette duty at 74 per cent the law of diminishing returns had begun to operate.

Molyneaux refuses to quit

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mr James Molyneaux, leader of Ulster's Official Unionist Party, said yesterday that he would not resign his position despite continued criticism from some members of his style of leadership.

Taking the offensive for the first time since the attacks on him began, he gave a warning to his critics who are becoming increasingly demoralized by the threat from the rival Democratic Unionist Party, led by the Rev Ian Paisley, and fears that they would be blamed for the damage being done.

Mr Molyneaux, leader of the party sonce 1979, said he had no intention of quitting his post. "I have a responsibility to the people who have elected me. I have a responsibility to keep my nerve."

Mr Molyneaux's critics are unlikely to let the matter rest and the party faces perhaps months of saiping befoire the issue is finally resolved. In that time a crucial by-election will be held in the safe "loyalist" seat of Belfast, South, where the Rev Robert Bradford, the official Unionist MP, murdered by the IRA last November, had a mojority of 17,130 in 1979.

If an acceptable loyalist unity candidate is not agreed, the stage will be set for a battle between the official Unionists and the Democratic Unionists which will be a pointer to which party represents Protestant opinion in the province.

The loss of the seat by the Official Unionists could precipitate a fresh crisis of confidence in Mr Molyneaux's leadership although he has considerable backing among the hierarchy.

Privately he is inderstood to be fatalistic about the latest criticism, believing that the party goes through leadership unheavals every three years, causing serious electoral harm.

His leadership was in question last week after the party executive decided to end a boycott of councils by councillors, and that came after criticism of a lack of direction after Mr Bradford's death.

The meeting next weekend of the Official Unionist councillors' association is likely to see fresh attacks on the leadership in discussion of future strategy. It will be attended by Mr Williamm Ross, official Unionist MP for Londonderry and a strong supporter of Mr Molyneaux, who will not be present

Nor will Mr Harold McCusker, official Unionist MP for Armagh and a possible challenger for the leadership, attend, because it is understood he does not want to be blamed further for any attacks that might be voiced.

Much of the criticism surrounding Mr Molyneaux arises from poor comparisons with Mr Paisley, whose party is now seen as making all the running in the province with its rumbustious style of leadership and good organization.

☐ Mr Michael Foot will make his first visit to Northern Ireland at the end of this month since becoming leader of the Labour Party at the head of a fact-finding mission.

Mistress and wife 'killed man'

A man was murdered by his wife and his mistress, probably because he had become irksome and because they wanted his insurance money, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. They thought of using poisonous mushrooms or toadstools to kill him, but it was the wrong season for them, Mr John Alliott, QC, for the prosecution, said. Instead Mr John Kearney, aged 40, an instrument technician, was killed by sleeping pills mixed with whisky. His body was put in the River Colne in Bucks, from which police recovered it last May.

Mr Alliott told the jury that although four people were accused of murder, "the evil pair at the heart of this matter" were Mr Kearney's wife, Sheila, aged 40, and Jeanne Phillips, aged 31, Mr Kearney's mistress until shortly before his death. The women were remarkably close friends, despite the affair.

The accused, who all deny murdering Mr Kierney, are Mrs Kearney, of Falling Lane, Yiewsley, Middlesex, Mrs Phillips, a cleaner, of Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, Middlesex, Pauline Simmons, aged 24, also of Coldharbour Lane; and Raymond Green, aged 36, unemployed, of Peartree Avenue, Yiewsley.

Pauline Simmons and Mr Green, Mr Alliott said, were undoubtedly involved by Mrs Phillips and Mrs Kearney, Simmons because she was Mrs Phillips's lodger and Mr Green because he was Mrs Kearney's lover.

Mr Alliott said another man, Frederick Mann, had admitted helping to dispose of the body. He had "superseded the deceased as Phillips's lover". Describing the "sexual kaleidoscope" of the changing relationships of the group, Mr Alliott said they met in public houses on the urban fringe of west London and afterwards had parties at one another's houses.

On the day Mr Kearney died he rang his mistress, Mr Alliott said. "It was on a Thursday, the day their liaison usually flourished. He was lured to Phillips's home hoping to carry on the affair, which he did not regard as finished, but in fact to meet his death."

In the house were Mrs Phillips, her lodger, Pauline Simmons and Simmons's younger sister.





Gloria Hunniford, the first female daytime disc jockey on BBC Radio 2, during her opening programme yesterday. Patrick Litchfield, the photographer, was her first guest

Channel Four guidelines

By Kenneth Gosling

Channel Four will be required to follow the same rules on programme sponsorship as other independent television companies.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) has redrawn its guidelines to cover the use by the channel of programmes funded by non-broadcasters. There have been such programmes on independent television but more are expected on Channel Four.

The guidelines cover: broadcasters' editorial independence and responsibility; the content of programmes ("factual portrayals of doings, happenings, places or things" as indicated in the Broadcasting *Act, 1981); and the* nature of on-screen acknowledgment.

The authority has had extensive consultations with the channel and the programme companies and says the arrangements will be reviewed again in the light of experience gained this year (the channel opens in November) and next year.

Screen credits can be given to organizations that have financed a production as long as the name of a product does not appear.

Acknowledgements to other funders will be considered only when a programme is a factual portrayal, and that covers recordings or live relays of sporting, artistic and entertainment events that have an existence independent of the television broadcast itself. That consideration will not be extended to news programmes.

There is no chance, the IBA adds, that advertising magazine programmes (such as *Jim's Inn, hosted by the late Jimmy Hanley* in the 1950s) will be permitted.

Wording of acknowledgements, to appear at the end and, where appropriate, at the beginning of programmes, must be agreed in advance with the IBA. Where a programme includes a funder's name no product including that name will be allowed "within or around that programme".

DRUG USE WORRYING DOCTORS

By Annabell Ferriman

Twenty million prescriptions for tranquillizers are issued each year and doctors are becoming increasingly worried about the amount of drugs consumed, a report published today says.

Patients should realize that many complaints are self-limiting and will disappear without treatment and others cannot be cured by drugs, the report says.

Dr John Lewis, the author, who is a general practitioner with a special interest in dispensing drugs and drug addiction, says that patients have come to expect a "pill for every ill" and feel they have not been properly treated if they leave a consultation with their doctor without a prescription.

Many patients complain of "nerves" and feel that tranquillizersareasimpleremedy.

"They cannot accept that the cause for the 'nerves' must be faced up to".

Their condition may be labelled anxiety or depression, and a tranquillizing drug or anti-depressant, or both, may be prescribed; but the true diagnosis is unhappiness.

The dangers of tranquillizers, apart from that of dependence, is that one's performance is reduced.

Dr Lewis says it is important to remember that all medicines are drugs. Many have side-effects. Antibiotics, for example, can produce sickness, diarrhoea, sore mouth and deafness, so it is important to reserve their use for conditions for which they are known to respond.

No perfect sleeping pill yet exists, he says. "While all the hypnotics (sleeping pills) available increase the total sleep time, with a few possible exceptions their effectiveness diminishes after several weeks."

Is your medicine really necessary? (British Medical Association, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JP, 50p plus 15p p.p.).

Most union members 'think Labour will lose'

By Ian Bradley

More than half of Britain's trade unionists think the Labour Party will lose the next election, a poll taken earlier this month shows.

The detailed findings of the poll, which was conducted by Market & Opinion Research International (MORI) for last night's Granada Television programme, *World in Action* and made available exclusively to *The Times*, could be dismal reading for the main opposition party. They show that 45 per cent of union members feel the Labour Party no longer represents the interests of working people.

More than half 56 per cent believe that their union should not be affiliated to the Labour Party. Only 35 per cent of trade unionists positively support affiliation to the party.

The poll will give considerable encouragement to the Social Democratic Party, whose leaders suggested last week that trade unions should end their traditional affiliation to the Labour Party.

According to MORI's findings, a fifth of all trade unionists would support the affiliation of their union to the SDP. Nearly two thirds (64 per cent), however, would oppose such a move. Of those opposed to affiliation, more than half (52 per cent) said unions should not be involved in politics.

The generally poor view of Labour's state and prospects is reflected in present voting intentions. As the accompanying table shows, MORI finds that more than a third (36 per cent) of trade unionists would vote for the SDP/Liberal Alliance in a general election tomorrow.

TRADE UNION VOTE 1974-81

	October 1974	May 1979	Now
Lab	55	51	46
C	23	33	14
Lib/SDP	16	13	36

Percentages are for actual voting in the October, 1974, and May, 1979, general election and voting intention now. 1974 and 1979 figures are for Liberals alone, those for 1981 for the SDP/Liberal alliance.

Although the samples are in some cases too small to be statistically significant, the differences in voting intention between the members of individual unions are particularly interesting.

Labour Party support has apparently held up most strongly among the miners (60 per cent) and is lowest in the National and Local Government Officers' Association (23 per cent).

Support for the SDP/Liberal Alliance is strongest in the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (44 per cent), the National Union of Railwaymen (36 per cent) and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union (35 per cent).

Both Mr Michael Foot and Mr Wedgwood Benn come badly out of the poll's findings. More than two fifths (42 per cent) of those interviewed believe the Labour leader should be replaced immediately, and 60 per cent say that Mr Benn should not continue his campaign to reform the party.

Nearly half (46 per cent) also feel that Mr Benn and the Labour left are to blame for the party's present troubles.

On policy issues there is, perhaps some consolation for the Labour Party in the poll's findings. A majority of trade unionists (58 per cent) support British withdrawal from the EEC and there is strong support (74 per cent) for import controls.

More than half (55 per cent) are against any interference with traditional trade union rights.

However, the poll also shows that Labour's unilateralist stance is supported by only 42 per cent of trade unionists.

At least Labour can gain some small financial comfort from the survey. It finds that more than three-quarters (78 per cent of the admittedly diminishing number of trade unionist Labour supporters would bve prepared to pay 50p a year, or less than the price of a pint of beer, to help the party in the next election.

MORI interviewed a representative sample of 946 trade unionists in 72 parliamentary constituencies between January 7 and 9.



Sub-Divisional Officer Leslie Smith, of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary, holding a £50 cheque he received from the Special Bow Street Reward Fund in London yesterday. Mr Smith tackled a youth after shots were fired near the Queen during last year's Trooping the Colour.

Conservation Act charge over fur coat

By David Nicholson-Lord

In what could be the last case of its type under existing law, a Manchester fur shop which allegedly offered for sale a £3,999 leopard skin coat is being prosecuted by conservationists. The prosecution was mounted privately after police and customs officials apparently dropped the case.

The action, against the old established family firm of Raimond Furs, is being taken under the Endangered Species Act, 1976. Succesful prosecutions under the Act have been considerably rarer than many of the animals and birds it seeks to protect. Only three cases have succeeded.

According to critics, that is because those prosecuting had the difficult task of proving that a skin or specimen was imported after 1976. They also had to show that traders had not made adequate efforts to check the existence of import licence.

From March, however, new provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act will come into force which conservationists believe will simplify the prosecution's task considerably. Traders will not be allowed to sell species regarded as the most endangered, which include the leopard, without a licence.

According to a group monitoring the Washington convention on endangered species, which the 1976 Act implemented, six leopard skins were imported in 1979.

The Manchester prosecution is being mounted by Mr Daniel Lindsay, European Secretary of PCAP (Protection and Conservation of Animals and Plantlife) International.

Fan clubs aid start of £1m orchestra

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

An ambitious project to set up a new professional full-time orchestra in the Midlands at a cost of £1m has just started with the formation of the first of a number of local "supporters' clubs", intended to provide funds, publicity and audiences.

At a time when many orchestras are in financial difficulty, the idea of starting another large orchestra might appear close to madness; but its creator and founder is convinced it can succeed.

Mr John Gale, artistic director and chief conductor, hopes that his Midland Philharmonic Orchestra will be ready to play by next year, after 18 months of careful preparation and development.

The embryonic orchestra, with locally-recruited players, has already performed six concerts in Leamington, Peterborough, and Corby, to test demand the projects' viability. Stage two this year is to recruit a professional administrative staff at an estimated £200,000, and to organize financial support for the orchestra, which Mr Gale believes will cost £1m a year to run at today's prices.

The plan is for a full orchestra of 81 players giving 45 concerts a year. The group will also be split into a chamber orchestra of 47 players, string, woodwind and brass ensembles and a string quartet, each of which will play some 90 concerts throughout the region.

Mr Gale has long been concerned at the scarcity of music in many big towns in the Midlands and East Anglia. He believes the Midland Philharmonic can fill a need and a demand.

The area, with a population of 13 million, ranges from Bristol to Watford and Southend in the south, Hereford and Stoke to the west, Norwich and Lowestoft to the east, and Barnsley and Hull in the north. The orchestra will steer clear of Birmingham, which is already provided for, but outside that general area has Shrewsbury, Reading and York among its targets.

Societies are to be set up in 17 counties, and the first, in Northampton, with Lord and Lady Spencer as honorary presidents, held its inaugural meeting this month. Four subscription concerts are planned for Northampton this year.

Mr Gale, a music publisher, emphasizes that the orchestra can succeed only by providing what its potential audience wishes to hear. A survey during its pilot concerts showed demand for the more popular and accepted classical composers such as Mozart, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky, and the light classical repertoire.

Once established, the orchestra intends to include more contemporary work and to commission works, especially from composers living in the area.

Aid rebuff for Hull trawlermen

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

A six-man delegation of Hull trawler owners met Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, yesterday to plead for more help for Britain's struggling distant water fleets.

But after the meeting Mr Thomas Boyd, managing director of Boyd Line, which yesterday announced the sale of its two largest freezer trawlers to New Zealand, said there had been no progress.

There was still no common fisheries policy in the EEC, and opportunities for British fishermen were totally inadequate, he said. A few years ago there had been more than fifty freezer trawlers, but today only 16 were left.

The ships were among the most efficient vessels built, but they were not being given the opportunity to fish. The 1,000-ton quota from Canadian waters amounted to a mere two freezer trips a year. The industry was seeking an 8,000-ton quota from Norway but was still awaiting a reply.

When Britain joined the EEC it had the largest fleet in Europe, Mr Boyd pointed out. It still had the largest resources, but would soon hve one of the smallest fleets.

Mr Jonathan Hall, managing director of another Hull firm, Thomas Hamling & Co Ltd, said that while the British Government claimed that the future lay with smaller inshore trawlers, the Dutch were building large vessels because they believed them to be economic.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said after the meeting that he regretted the sales of the two trawlers, but the general adoption of the 200-mile territorial limit inevitably restricted opportunities for distant water trawlers.

☐ J. Marr and Son, of Hull, has sold three big deep sea trawlers to Iceland. The stern trawlers Glen Carron, Glen Urquhart and Glen Moriston, all built in 1973.

Expulsion reprieve for Asian

By Lucy Hodges

An East African Asian whom the Government was proposing to deport last September is to stay in Britain after a High Court decision in his favour and India's refusal to accept him.

The case of Mr Nitinchandra Shah, aged 23, was won in court on a technicality, but it illustrates a highly significant policy change by the Indian Government. Henceforth it will refuse to accept East African Asians and others who are United Kingdom passport holders and have a right to live here, but whom the British authorities want to deport.

Mr Shah was born in Kenya and went to India with his family in 1964. Soon after, they applied to come to Britain on the special voucher scheme.

There is now a wait of five and a half years for such applicants from India, and rather than stay unemployed in India after his education finished Mr Shah went back to Kenya, where he got a job.

However, his Kenyan work permit ran out after a year. When he approached the British High Commission to try to join the Kenyan Asian voucher allocation, where there is no queue, he was told to go back to India and wait.

Meanwhile his father, mother, five sisters and brother had been admitted to Britain, so he returned, but was told he must go. The joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants filed a complaint with the European Commission of Human Rights.

The High Court decision gives Mr Shah leave to stay three-months. Mr Ian Martin, general secretary of the council, said it was "sheer spite" by the Home Office to give him only three months. "The case illustrates the appalling administration of the special voucher scheme and the way it works to split up families", he said.

MP's Bill seeks body to monitor computer data

By Frances Gibb

A Labour MP will seek tomorrow with the backing of the Labour Party parliamentary civil liberties group, to bring in a Bill which calls for the setting up of a independent body to monitor and safeguard the storage of information on computers.

The Bill will be introduced by Mr Michael Meacher, Labour MP for Oldham West, in view of concern felt over the amount of information stored on Special Branch files which is not directly relevant to security risks.

He has written to the Home Secretary after hearing that Devon and Cornwall police have weeded out their Special Branch files, many of which had been opened on persons apparently "for no other reason than that they were active in campaigning against nuclear weapons, opposed blood sports or supported the Anti-Apartheid Movement".

The Bill, which has been drafted by the National Council for Civil Liberties, calls for the setting up of a data protection authority as an independent watchdog, as recommended by the Lindop committee on data protection in 1978.

It rejects the proposal originally out forward by the Government that the Home Office should supervise the storage of computer data.

Since then however, it is believed that the pronosal has been modified in view of strong opposition from, among other groups, the British Medical Association, and that the Home Office now favours the setting up of a computer ombudsman to act as an independent monitor.

Mr Meacher's Bill also provides for the right of individual citizens to have access to and challenge their records; and places on operators of data banks, both computer and manual, a duty to register with the new authority and abide by the new European convention on data protection, which the Government has signed but not ratified.

Under the Bill the new authority issue codes of practice providing detailed instructions on how operators should comply with the law; and it would have the power to investigate complaints and remove data banks from the register where standards were not met.

Mr Meacher said yesterday it was time the Government acted upon the proposals of the Lindop committee.

Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the NCCL, said yesterday: "We hope that this initiative will force the Government to speed publication of its own proposals and provide Parliamentary time for a data protection Bill this session."

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Neo-nazis accused of bomb attack murders

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Jan 18

The biggest neo-nazi terrorist trial began in a maximum security sourt in Stammheim jail, Stuttgart today.

Herr Manfred Roder, aged 52, regarded as one of the most fanatical of the current neo-nazi leaders, and two followers are acused of the joint murder of two people and the attempted murder of eight others in bomb attacks between February and August, 1980. A fourth is charged with belonging to a terrorist organization.

The series of seven attacks reached a climax on the night of August 22 when a home-made device was hurled at a hostel for would-be foreign immigrants in Hamburg and killed two Vietnamese.

The millions of foreign workers and their families in West Germany are regarded by right-wing extremists with almost as much hatred as the Jews. According to investigators. Herr Röder noted the date in his diary as the beginning of "Germany's liberation".

Earlier that year, a bomb wrecked an exhibition about the extermination of Jews at Auschwitz in the town hall of Esslingen, south-west Germany. And a second blew up at the home of a local councillor who organized it.

Another target was a Cologne school dedicated to a resistance hero killed by the Nazis. More bombs were thrown at other foreigners' hostels and an immigration camp.

Herr Röder, a well-dressed former lawyer wiith semi-rimless glasses, started his political career in 1971 by founding a *Deutsche Bürgerinitiative* (German Citizen's initiative), A non-violent group upholding nazi-type beliefs.

But gradually Herr Röder, who described himself as the *Reichsverweser* (Reich administrator), began to demand action, width increasing insistence. In 1978 he was disbarred for his polictical activities and sentenced to jail for radical incitement. He escaped abroad.

He appears to have lived *undisturbed for a couple of* years in several countries including Britain, directing right-wing activities, circulating letters to his followers and supported by substantial donations from sympathizers. Later, he slipped secretly back into West Germany.

The other rhree accused are allegedly members of his latest group, the "*Deutsche Aktionsgruppen*" (German action groups). They are: Frau Sybille Vorderbrugge, 25, a medical assistant; and Herr Raymund Hörnle, 52, a metal worker who allegedly made the bombs.

The fourth, who is accused of murder, is Dr Heinz Colditz, 51, an ear, nose and throat doctor who would regale his patients with his right-wing views and boasted that he always refused to treat foreigners — as a "service to the fatherland".

The trial, which is expected to last at least until the end of March, is being held in the courtroom specially built for the trial of the Baader-Meinhof terrorists of the 1970's, and the accused are housed on the same floor of the high security wing where Andreas Baader and his comrades lived and committed suicide.

The security services believe the neo-nazis are far less cunning and professional than the left-wingers and believe they can contain right-wing terrorism.

A 14-month-old baby died today of her injuries suffered when a bonb shattered a Jewish restaurant in West Berlin on Friday night. Twenty-four people were injured.

Police at first suspected that the attackers were a Palestinian or Arab group, but today they said they were investigating "in all directions".

Mitterrand suffers biggest defeat since socialists came to power

From Charles Hargrove,
Paris, Jan 18

Saturday's rejection by the Constitutional Council of parts of the French nationalization law, and the Opposition's victory in four parliamentary by-elections a day later, are the first serious setbacks suffered for the Socialist Government since it came to power seven months ago.

The setback is not softened by the facts that the council did not challenge the principle of nationalization, as the Opposition had hoped, and that the political balance of power is unchanged. The three seats lost by the left yesterday in any case were *conservative since 1958, and* were won by a hair's breadth in the "pink" tide which swept the country in the June election.

Hovever, Opposition claims that the tide is beginning to turn seem premature. There is every reason to believe that the left would be returned with a substantial majority in a general election now.

President Mitterrand may not be sorry that both the *constitutional* and the electoral setback, which do not undermine the Government's programme or affect its power base, will calm some of the hotheads in his own party, who talked in recent weeks about disregarding the Constitutional Council's decision. There have been reports that President Mitterrand has regretted in private that the Socialist domination of Parliament is so complete.





Left to right:Pierre de Bénouville, BrunoBourg Broc, Alain Peyrefitte, Jacques Dominati

There is a strong tendency among these hotheads to accuse the council of Machiavellian shrewdness, first or having invalidated the election results in four conservative seats, and second for giving a particulary vicious verdict on nationalization. This verdict avoids a clash with the Government that would have caused a constitutional crisis, but undermines its economic policy by prolonging uncertainty in a fifth of the economy, and *sharply raising the tax bill.*

That is not the view taken by the Government, which derives satisfaction from the Council's decision in favour of the principle and scope of nationalization, even if this means unexpected delay and considerable extra cost. Now it is racing against time to draft a new Bill today, which the Cabinet can approve on Wednesday, and which can be rushed through Parliament in about a month under an accelerated procedure.

As for the by-elections, the Government regards them as a salutary lesson to its own supporters to mobilize more effectively. Paradoxically, the right this time was more successful in this than the left. But many Socialist voters failed to go to the polls, and many moderate voters who had backed the left in the general election, especially farmers, white collar workers, and shopkeepers, deserted it because they are disillusioned with *the Government.*

Some left-wing voters may also have abstained to express disappointment that the victory of the left last summer has not brought about the concrete changes in their daily lives which they had hoped for.

The question raised for the Government is whether it should increase the pace and scope of reform or, as M Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, insisted last year, reduce them fo fear of losing the moderate voters without whom it could not have won last summer.

The results of yesterday's poll are clear. M Alain peyrefitte, the Gaullist former Minister of Justice, who lost his seat in the Seine-et-Marne, by 186 votes last June, wo it back by more tham 6,000 votes. The Gaullist newcomer in the Marne, M Bruno Bourg-Broc, had a mojority of nearly 5,000, *compared to June's Socialist* majority of 256.

In the Twelfth District of Paris, General de Benouville, a Gaullist who scraped through with 48 votes in June, scored more than 4,000 this time in a particularly low poll. And in the Second District, M Jacques Dominati, a former Gaullist turned Giscardian, was nore than 3,000 ahead in a 50 per cent poll, after losing by 57 votes in June.

Martens wins bulldozer vote

From Ian Murray
Brussels, Jan 18

At five o'clock this morning an exhausted Belgian Parliament took the final vote to agree the special powers sought by the Government to deal with the country's economic crisis.

The Bill now goes before the Senate for approval and it should be in force by the end of the month. The special powers have been nicknamed "The Martens bulldozer" in honour of Mr Wilfried Martens who, heads the right-wing Social Christian Liberal *Party coalition.* The aim is to revive the economy, improve public finances and create employment.

The Government object is to keep its promise to reduce this year's expected budget deficit by 120,000m Belgian francs (£1,500m). In practice, it will be using the powers to water down legislation which makes salaries automatically index-linked.

The special powers mean that the cabinet, in consultation with the King, can agree financial edicts without debating them in Parliament. Parliament merely has to be informed of the Royal edict and any objections would amount to a motion of no confidence in the Government.

Mr Martens rallied his coalition partners in Parliament last week as the debate was dragging on by telling them: "Let us not be frightened of being unpopular".

Nkomo denies party merger proposals

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Jan 18

Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the second largest party in Zimbabwe's coalition Government, today condemned trends within the ruling Zanu (PF) Party and dismissed claims by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, that talks would start in two weeks on merging their parties.

In his most outspoken statement since his followers clashed with Mr Mugabe's supporters last February leaving more than 200 dead, Mr Nkomo indicated that prospects of a merger had, if anything, receded.

Mr Nkomo, President of the Patriotic Front, told *The Times* he was worried that Zanu (PF) was departing increasingly from the constitution agreed at Lancaster House and was holding itself above Parliament.

Mr Mugabe told rallies around Salisbury yesterday that talks would start between Zanu (PF) and the Patriotic Front shortly to discuss making Zimbabwe a one-party state. No party other than Zanu (PF) would *rule in Zimbabwe and it* would be in power forever.

Mr Nkomo, veteran of nationalist politics and known by his supporters as "Father of Zimbabwe", said the Prime Minister's statement had raised serious misgivings in the Patriotic Front and had deeply concerned him personally. Zanu (PF) was assuming that the Patriotic Front would acquiesce.

The Patriotic Front holds 20 of the 80 black seats in Parliament and as the main alternative to Zanu (PF) would have to be involved in any peaceful transition to a one-party system. Mr Nkomo indicated that there would be no talk on unification in the foreseeable future and that although the possibility of a merger had been raised "you never heard it from me".

It was on the constitution that he was most critical, noting that speeches by Mr Mugabe which set Zanu (PF) up as the main political force were a contradiction of the document which the two leaders signed at Lacaster House "which states clearly that Parliament is supreme *and not any political party*".

As a result Zanu (PF) members were setting themselves above the organs of state such as the police and Army while party men had been given a disproportionate number of appoimtments in the Civil Service.

Mr Nkomo, who has been a virtual recluse from public life in recernt months, said he had been shaken by the Prime Minister's weekend speech: "I believed we were working together for peace and unity... but you can't force unity."

Speeches by Mr Mugabe on the one-party theme upset Mr Nkomo's supporters who traditionally have different regional and tribal affiliations but in recent months they have drawn back from public criticism. The fact Mr Nkomo has responded in so forthright a manner does not bode well.

Campsite blast trial opens

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Jan 18

The trial opened in Tarragona today of six men accused of responsibility for the Los Alfaques camping disaster in which more than 200 foreign tourists were burnt to death in July, 1978, when a tanker carrying propylene gas exploded on a road near by. Exercizing their right under Spain's 1978 democratic constitution, a group of local citizens beaded by the Mayor of the village of Reus appeared at the court today demanding exemplary sentences to prevent such tragedies ever occurring again. They want the sentences to bring about stricter security regulations, especially near industrial areas. The camping site was located near industry. The trial could not be started earlier because of cumbersome legal procedures.

According to the investigating magistrate's findings, the tanker was overloaded, carrying 51,700lb of the liquid gas, whereas its maximum capacity was only 48,680lb. The tank was said to be in a defective condition and made of a steel unsuited for transporting such dangerous material.

The camping site, near the Tarragona-Valencia main road, was overcrowded, with a total of 780 holidaymakers staying there, instead of 264, the officially permitted number. The public prosecutor asked for sentences of four years and two months for Señor Alfredo Marco, the head of security at Enpetrol, the state-owned company, which supplied the propylene; Señor Francisco Molinos, in charge of security at the local plant; Señor Alfredo Orti, the plant's manager; and Señor José Villalba, the mechanic who filled up the tanker.

The prosecutor also asked for one-year prison sentences each for Señor Socrates Arguelles, the chairman of Cisternas Reunidas, owners of the tanker, and Señor Alfonso Hernandez, the firm's technical director.

A total of 215 holidaymakers lost their lives in the explosion and 67 others were injured.

Nimeiry toughens austerity

Khartum, Jan 18. — President Nimeiry of Sudan, under pressure to rescind austerity measures had said he will resign rather than cancel his economic programme.

The measures announced last November resulted in price rises in certain consumer goods such as sugar, which went up by 60 per cent, and petrol which rose by 30 per cent.

President Nimeiry, leader of the country since 1969, told senior party and government officials last right that he would not listen to arguments about the increases caused by the removal of subsidies.

Instead, he said in his speech reported by the official Sudan news agency today that there would be new increases in sugar, wheat and petrol prices during the next 18 months.

"You can even ask me to resign and I am ready for that. I want you to study my programme and tell me if it is useful", the President said.

Sudanese universities and schools were closed indefinitely earlier this month after demnstratons and riots in protest against the increases.

The President also intends to remove more subsidies and he said there would be no increases in salaries and wages, and that government expenditure would be severely curtailed.

The International Monetary Fund granted Sudan a $220m (£110m) standby credit, and the President devalued the Sudanese pound and tied the exchange rate to the American dollar.

In a strong rebuff to his own party officials, the President said he was not obliged to consult the ruling Sudanese Socialist Union on state affairs and he would instruct his ministers not to respond to any questions by party officials.

"This is my position. If you want it, I will continue in office for the remaining year of my tenure, and if not then I will say farewell", he said. — Reuter.

MICRO-TALKS

Aden.—Representatives of communications companies have arrived here to negotiate a microwave communications network for North and South Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia.

Poland: retaliation

US wants curb on sales of high technology to East

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington Jan 18

The United States will call for tougher restrictions on the sale of high technology to the Soviet Union and other East European countries at the special meeting of the Western Coordinating Committee in Export Controls (Cocom) hich begins in Paris tomorrow.

Although American officials are making a distinction between the Paris meeting and the sanctions which the United States has already imposed against the Soviet Union and Poland, it is clear they hop to use the Polish crisis to sput their Western allies into accepting the neen for more rigorous trade curbs.

Mr James Buckley, the Under-Secretary for Security Assistance, will be heading the jount team from the State, Defence and Commerce departments to the week-long talks.

The meeting was first proposed during last July's summit conference of seven Western industrialized countries in Ottqawa which called for consultation to ensure that in the field od East-West relations the west's economic policies continued to be "compatible with our political and security objectives".

The cordinating committee is an informal grouping which comprises all Nato countries, apart from Iceland, and Japan. Its function is to regulate the transfer to communist countries of high technology which could effect the national security of the Western allies.

The United States, concerned that the Soviet Union is using high technology items purchased from the West to improve its military capability, is to propose tougher restrictions in nine main categories of equipment. These include computers, machine tools, heavy transport, power equipment, air and sea navigation equipment and metallurgical goods.

America will also call for stricter curbs on the transfer of technical know-how. "We are very concerned that while the restrictions already imposed on equipment sales to the communist block have been quite effective, there are few similar restrictions on providing the Soviets with Western know-how," one official said today.

The American attitude towards this week's meeting was recently spelt out by Mr Lawrence Brady, an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, who said the Soviet Union was buying high technology from the West and diverting is as "the engine of the Soviet military machine."

Mr Brady, who is known for his tough attitude towards Moscow, told and audience in San Francisco: "We are pldeged to the Soviet military build-up, and we are pledged substantially to reduce Soviet leverage over the economies of the non-communist world."

The Ottawa summit revealed sharp differences in approach towards East-West relations between the United States and its allies, particularly West Germany. These differences have recently been underscored by the more restrained approach of Western Europe towards the Polish crisis compared to Wahington.

The United States is particularly opposed to the construction of a natural gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe. President Reagan recently announced the suspension of licences for the sale of American pipe-laying equipment for this project as part of a seven-point sanctions against the Soviet Union.

Although oil and gas equipment does not officially fall within the scope of Cocom, the pipeline is expected to be discussed at the Paris meeting. United States officials estimate the Soviet Union will earn about $5,000m (£2,600m) a year from gas sales to Western Europe. This, they contend, would increase Soviet ability to purchase computers, advance electronics equipment and other high technology products suitable for military use.

American officials do not expect the Cocom meeting to reach agreement on a new list of restricted items. However, they hope the other participants will come away convinced to the need to improve and expand controls on trade in strategic goods with the communits block.

☐ France and the Soviet Union have resumed negotiations regarding possible French gas purchases from Russia. The talks had broken down at the beginning of last month (Our Paris Correspondent writes). A team from Russia's Soyouzgas Export arrived in France toda and is planning to spend a week resolving the remaining differences regarding France's planned purchase of 10 million cubic yards of Soviet gas starting in 1986.

The venue of the talks is not being revealed for fear of political demonstrations, but it is believed to be somewhere outside Paris.

When the Polish Government introduced martial law last month, there was speculation here that the French Government might postpone the talks or reduce the amount of gas to be purchased as a gesture of disapproval of Soviet interference in Poland. President Mitterrand clearly does not feel that the Polish situation justifies any change in the timetable.



"Auch . . . these Jews are still everywhere!"

Mercenary group faces new charges

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg, Jan 18

The 45 mercenaries arrested by the South African police after their unsuccessful coup attempt in the Seychelles in November were charged today with jeopardizing the safety of the international airport on Mahé island in the Seychelles and with action that might have jeopardized good order and discipline at the airport.

The charges, an alternative to the main charge against them of hijacking an Air India Boeing from the Seychelles to South Africa, took both legal and diplomatic circles by surprise. they have been brought under the 1972 Civil Aviation Air Offences Act, which is enabling legislation giving effect to the international treaties on hijacking and air piracy that South Africa has signed.

By bringing in the alternative charge of disrupting activity at Mahé airport the South African authorities have opened up an entirely new situation. The mercenaries will go on trial not only for allegedly hijacking the Boeing byt for their actions in the Seychelles as well.

Diplomatic observers, who were in Durban magistrates court today when the 45 were remanded for trial by the Natal Supreme Court, said it was being made absolutely clear that South Africa intends to stand by both the letter and the spirit of the international agreements on air piracy that it has signed.

The 45 were not asked to plead to the charges and their conditions of bail were renewed. Some dispute has arisen over the trial date expdted to be in April. Counsel representing Colonel Michael Hoare, alleged leader of the group, and 17 others, argued that insufficient time was being allowed by the Natal Attorney General's office to prepare a defence.

The state has listed 43 witnesses, including the entire crew of the Air India Boeing. So far the Indian Government has not indicated if they will be allowed to give evidence - there are no diplomtic relations between India and South Africa.

Terror in Italy

Live TV bomb plot documents found

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Jan 18

Italy's Christian Democrats are looking at terrorism in a new light, this week, after the discovery of an alleged plan by the Red Brigades to blow them up next Friday live on television at the opening of the Christian Democrat national council.

The plan is supposed to have emerged from documents found in three bases of the Red Brigade's terrorist movement by investigators on January 9. Signor Giovanni Senzani, allegedly in line to lead the whole movement, was arrested.

A great deal emerged, too, of a planned winter offensive of the terrorists, including six actions either planned or already carried out.

An attack on Nato had been threatened by the terrorists. There was to be a kidnapping or ransom of a leading business executive to finance the movement; then the kidnapping and interrogation of a leading police official at the Ministry of the Interior; an attack with missiles on a maximum security prison to free well-known terrorists; the seizure of a judge and, as the setpiece, the blasting with missiles on Friday of the Christian democrat meeting which would have been attended by many of Italy's leading politicians.

On December 17 Brigadier-General James Dozier, deputy chief of staff at the Nato headquarters in Verona was kidnapped. He is undergoing a "peoples trial", according to his captors. This morning there was a meeting of investigators in Verona to reivew their work; but so far there is no indication of any success.

On January 4, the Rome special branch arrested two alleged terrorists said to have been about to kidnap Signor Cesare Romiti, managing director of Fiat. On January 6 Signor Nicola Simone, deputy head of the Rome special branch, escaped capture when terrorists came to his home saying they were delivering a telegram. But Signor Simone was badly wounded in the exchange of fire.

The arrest of the two would-be kidnappers of Signor Romiti is said to have led to the arrest of Signor Senzani on January 9 and the discovery of missiles, automatic weapons, pistols, hand granades and explosives.

Not only was there said to be detailed plans of future action, including the attack on the Christian Democrats, but there were also copies of interrogations of victims of the past and a film of the killing of a hostage photographed clearly enough for the killers to be recognized.

Doubts, however, are beginning to be expressed toay of the reliability of all these reports, none of which come from officially released documents. Similar doubts are expressed as to whether the full truth is emerging from a piecemeal technique of allowing selected pieces of information to emerge.

Ethiopians say Eritrea is beaten

Addis Ababa, Jan 18. — The official Ethiopian news agency said today government forces had smashed the Eritrean secessionist movement which has been fighting the central government for more than 20 years.

The assertion came against the background of diplomatic reports in Nairobi of large-scale Ethiopian troop movements in the strategic Red Sea province.

As the secessionists have been effectively smashed, the agency said, "The apparent existence of scattered pockets of insurrection can be of no consolation to those who have directly or indirectly worked for Eritrea's estrangement from the motherland.

Eritrean guerrillas have been fighting for the independence of the northern province since September 1961, saying it was illegally annexed by the late Emperor Haile Selassie, overthrown seven years ago by young left-wing officers who perpetuated his policy of stamping out the nationalists by force.

Diplomatic sources in Nairobi said that almost half the Ethiopian army of 240,000 men — the largest in black Africa — was mow in the north in apparent preparation for another attempt to crush nationalist resistance.

Mr Tahar Nur, of Eritrean Liberation Front-People's Liberation Forces (ELP-PLF), said Ethiopia was being assisted by a tank brigade and a Cuban Infantry battalion. — Reuter.

Army calls for party purge to be continued

By Our Foreign Staff

A continuing purge of the Polish Communist Party, and a return to unity based on Marxist-Leninist principles, was demanded by the Polish armed forces newspaper yesterday.

The article in *Zolniers Wolnosci*, came after official disclosures that nearly 1,100 people had been expelled from the party in the first three weeks of martial law. A further 1,300 people were given less serious penalties.

Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowksi, the Polish Deputy Prime Minister, was quoted yesterday as saying that chaose could return to Poland within a month if martial law were lifted.

"If we really want reform and the economic stabilization which would make these reforms possible, than we cannot lift these measures taken with a heavy heart and create a situation in which the whole chaos would return within a month at the latest," he told the West German news magazine *Stern*.

"Unfortunately," he added, "that forces us to take repressive measures against those people who would only endanger a continuing renewal."

Justifying the party purges, Mr Tadeusz Novicki, the vice-chairman of the party's Control Commission, claimed that the Control Commissions had the duty to take a firm stand against ideological wavering or capitulation to the enemies of socialism, and against any signs of sectarianism, dogmatism or revisionism.

"This, obviously, has nothing to do with revenge or vengeance, which we firmly oppose", Mr Novicki said. "The issues as stake are truth, honesty and justice".

According to Senator Larry Pressler, a Republican from South Dakota, who returned to Washington yesterday after a four-day visit to Poland, Archbishop Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, fears that cvil war may break out in Poland if negotiations between the Government and Solidarity do not get under way.

Meanwhile, General Wojcieh Jaruzelski, the military leader, has ordered the introduction of the traditional Polish four-cornered caps in the uniform of the Army company performing guard of hour duties. The companyill wear the caps for the first time on January 17, the aniversary of the liberation of Warsaw by the Soviet Army.

All the BBC's daily transmissions in Polish continue to be jammed from the Soviet Union. The jamming, which is taking place from at least three sites, is already the subject of a protest by the Foreign Office.

In Belgium yesterday, eggs were thrown at Mr Yuri Brezhnev, the son of President Leonid Brezhnev, by a crowd protesting against Soviet involvement in the Polish crisis.

Walesa can expect to be held for some time

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 18

Mr Josipo Wiejacz, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Poland, made it clear today that there was no hope of an early release for Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader. Although he did not make an outright denial of comments made in London by Mr Sterfan Staiszewski, the Polish Ambassador, he left no doubt that Mr Walesa would be kept in detention for some time to come.

"We don't know what was said exactly in London," Mr Wiejacz told a news conference, "We know him (Mr Staiszewski) as a great optimist." Some of the reports of the meeting with the Poliskh Ambassador might also have been misinterpreted to give them an optimistic sheen, he added.

Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the Deputy Prime Minister, speaking at the same news conference, said that Mr Walesa had held a number of meetings with Mr Ciosek, the Minister for Trade Union Afairs — but he indicated that they had not achieved any results. They had discussed the future of the unions, Mr Rakowski said. "I think it would be fair to say that Mr Walesa spoke more about the future of Solidarity than Mr Ciosek."

Mr Rakowski said that Mr Walesa had not been accompanied by his advisers in the talks with Mr Ciosek — reinforcing the view that nothing of substance has been agreed. Mr Valesa has continually emphasised that he will negotiate seriously only if other Solidarity leaders are present. Mr Rakowski denied Archbishop Josef Glemp's statements that the Solidarity leader had demanded an official apology from the Government for imposing military rule.

The Deputy Prime Minister also said there was no prospect of ending internment before martial law itself was abolished. And martial law itself was likely to be phased out only when all "signs of anarchy" had been eliminated. This is seen as a reference to a secret regrouping of Solidarity as an underground organization. The West, Mr Rakowski said, should think twice about criticizing Poland on interning extremists".

"Do they want us to return to a situation that existed before December 13? What would the West have done if Poland had collapsed into civil war?" Freeing these "extremists", Mr Rakowski said, would simply reopen the old problems.

Once a normal and stable situation was restored, the main task was to push through socio-economic reforms and adjust structures to the changing expectations of Poles — above all the young generation. Part of this adjustment would be to form new trade unions that operated within their statutes. But, Mr Rakowski admitted, there was no prospect of this before the end of martial law.



Israeli settlers have stopped the dismantling of this 1967 war memorial

Shamir casts doubt on autonomy talks

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Jan 18

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, said today that prospects for an early breakthrough in the Palestinian autonomy talks have dimmed because the Egyptians have suddenly hardened their position.

The minister told the Knesset foreign affairs and security committee and the Egyptians in their recent meetings that the agreement they were seeking must be acceptable to the Palestinians.

Mr Shamir said this represented a shift from President Sadat's position. The former leader at his last meeting with Mr Begin in Alexandria in September said if the two Governments agree on an autonomy plan, it would be his responsibility to deal with the Palestinians.

The new Egyptian stand was opposed by Israel, he said. The United States, Egypt and Israel should be the only parties to an agreement at this time.

☐ Representatives from Egypt and Israel today discussed Israel's final withdrawal plans from the Sinai peninsula but could not settle the fate of a coral reef resort and a Mediterranean town, (Our Cairo Correspondent writes).

Soviet pressure to mend split

From Karan Thapar Kabul, Jan 18

Under Soviet pressure the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has again begun desperate efforts to mend the split in its ranks. The aim is to reconcile the Parcham faction of President Babrak Karmal with the Khalq group which held power under Presidents Taraki and Amin.

The rift in the party, which dates back to 1967, is seen by the Russians as the main reason for the Afghan Government's failure to establish itself independent of Soviet armed support.

The divide is so deep that some Khalqis, who are said to be as bitterly opposed to Russian intervention as the *mujahidin* guerrillas, are believed here to be leaking information to the *mujahidin*. People in both factions are unrestrained in their criticism of the state of the country.

The first goal of the reconciliation is to include a greater number of Khalqis in the largely Parcham Cabinet. The dilemma the Russians face is that a significant section of the Parcham group is opposed to reconciliation. Underlying the resistance to party unification is the tribal rivalry which has always bedevilled Afghan politics.

Baby dies after Berlin blast

Berlin.-A 14-month-old girl has died from injuries recerived when a bomb wrecked an Israeli restaurant on Friday night.

The blast injured 25 people and seven, including the dead child's parents, are still in intensive care.

Two little-known Palestinian groups claimed responsibility for the bomb attack, but so far no direct evidence of Palestinian involvement has been found.

Schmidt meets unions in unemployment crisis

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 18

Alarmed by West Germany's worst winter unemployment for 16 years, Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, and Government ministers tonight began talks with union leaders about ways of creating more jobs.

The Government has come under increased pressure from the unions and Herr Schmidt's own Social Democratic Party to work out some employment programme after December jobless figures passed 1,700,000.

Until now such pressure has failed because of strong resistance from the junior coalition partner, the liberal Free Democrats, and the Chancellor himself has never been particularly enthusiastic. But now the Free Democrats, also shaken by the figures, agree that something must be done, although everyone has widely differing views as to what.

The Free Democrats' readiness to compromise on the subject,which nearly led to the break-up of the coalition last summer, is an important development for Herr Schmidt's government.

After months of friction in which the FDP seemed to be edging towards the conservative Christian Democrats with a view eventually to forming a new government, the coalition is more united than for a long time.

The Polish crisis in particular has shown that the FDP stands side by side with the SPD on the extremely important issues of foreign and detente policy, and that they have little in common with the hard-line CDU.

During tonight's talks and further discussions tomorrow both with leaders of industry and with unionists, Herr Schmidt will sound out ideas for a goverNment plan which is expected to be decided on by the Cabinet on February 3.

All sides appear agreed on the need to stimulate investment so as to create more jobs, but disagree over where the money should come from.

EEC gives ministers ultimatum

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 18

The European Commission decided not to go ahead with agricultural price-fixing negotiations today to give foreign ministers a last chance to draw up guidelines for restructuring the Community's finances and agricultural policy.

The commissioners were meant to have spent the day drawing up price recommendations for tomorrow's Agricultural Council. Mr Poul Dalsager, the commissioner in charge of agriculture, was anxious to press ahead with the pricing and has spent much of the weekend working on the dossiers.

When the Commission met today it was first given a report by Mr Gaston Thorn, the President, and M François-Xavier Ortoli, the Commissioner for Financial Affairs, about last week's meeting of foreign ministers in Brussels. This meeting had tried unsuccessfully to dray up the guidelines and had decided to have a last attempt to reach agreement next Monday.

If the foreign ministers reach agreement it will profoundly affect the whole strategy of fixing agricultural prices. The commission therefore decided it would stand aside this week to ensure that the ministers could negotiate without any feeling of interference.

The commission this evening made it clear it was not going to give the foreign ministers any more time. "Whatever the outcome of the council", the declaration said, "the Commission will then decide its agricultural price proposals." The Belgian presidency of the council will be asked to call a meeting of agriculture ministers as quickly as possible so that the negotiations to fix prices can be completed

There is irritation in the Commission's decision. Mr Thorn said at the end of last week's foreign ministers' meeting: "I am very disappointed. We are dragging our feet." The Commission's view, expressed before that meeting, was that all the facts were known and only the political will was missing. The Commission felt it had done everything necessary

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bureaucrats fail to save convent

Madrid.—Demolition work is beginning on a sixteenth century convent near Malaga for which protection has been sought as a historic monument. The site is wanted for building development.

If the development goes ahead it will be principally because of Spain's slow-moving bureaucracy. It will be legal because the town council of Velez Malaga has not taken any action reviewing the application for permission to develop within the statutory period of 12 months.

The convent was built in 1591 by a follower of Saint Teresa of Avila, the fourth centenary of whose birth is now being celebrated, and of St Joan of the Cross, the mystic poet. Classification as a historic monument has been sought since 1968.

Russians top of nuclear league

A total of 49 nuclear explosions were monitored in Sweden during 1981, the Swedish Defence Minister said, The Soviet Union carried out 21 tests, the United States 16, France 11 and Britain one, The ministry monitors tests at seismic observatories in Hagfors and Uppsala .

Mr Ola Dalman, the ministry's nuclear test expert said there were indications that five of the Soviet explosions may have been for non-military purposes, perhaps for earth-moving during oil exploration.

Arabs accused of synagogue attack

Vienna. — The trial has started of two young Arabs accused of killing two people and injuring 20 in a machine-gun and grenade attack on Vienna's synagogue — last August. Husham Rajih, aged 21, and Marvan Hassan, aged 26, were accused of murder, manslaughter and illegal possession of arms.

Rajih was also charged with murdering Herr Heinz Nittel, the Vienna Transport Councillor and head of the Austro-Israeli friendship society, who was shot in his car outside his home on May 1.

Alpine tragedy

Grenoble.—Three French climbers, two women and a man, were killed and four others seriously injured when they were swept off a rock face by an ice avalanche at the resort of l'Alpe d'Huez at the weekend.

Drug arrests

Kuala Lumpur. — Police arrested a total of 8,269 people, including 76 foreigners, for drug offences and seized about 1,600 lb of drugs in Malaysia last year.

Chamois dying

Macugnaga.— Dozens chamois have died in Italy's western Alps in the past few weeks after an epidemic blinding them. Alpine guides and naturalists have reported that the blind chamoi died of starvation or fell to their death in crevasses.

Oil death toll 249

Madrid. — four women died in hospitals last weekend, three in Valladolid and the other in Salamanca, bringing to 249 the death toll in the Spanish cooking oil scandal.

Swoop on Mafia

Reggio de Calabria.—Police here arrested 22 members of he Calabrian Mafia, belonging to one of the largest clans in the province. Its leader, Mr Giuseppe Poromallo, 61, escaped arrest.

IGLESIAS TRIP

Madrid.—Dr Julio Iglesias, who was rescued by police from kidnappers on Sunday, is to fly to Miami to see his son, Señor Julio Iglesias, the pop singer, next Wednesday.

RAILMEN KILLED

Dijon.—Five railway workers died and four were injured when a train hit their lorry in the marshalling yards at Perrigny-les-Dijon.

هكذا من الأصل

High seas attack jolts Manila links with Tokyo

From Peter Hazlehurst, Tokyo, Jan 18

Tokyo's relations with Manila were strained today after Resident Marcos's Government admitted that Philippines Air Force fighters had strafed a Japanese chemical tanker off Mindanao Island in the southern Philippines on Friday.

A Korean cook on the 5,307-ton tanker, The Hegg, was seriously wounded during the attack, in which T28 aircraft fired about 100 rounds at the vessel.

The crew of The Hegg said they could not identify the markings on the aircraft, and could offer no explanation for the attack. The ship was said to have been in international waters at the time.

The Japanese Foreign Office announced today that the Government of the Philippines had now admitted that its Air Force was ordered to attack the tanker because Manila had "reliable information" that the ship was carrying arms and ammunition for Muslim guerrillas fighting for an independent Islamic state in Mindanao.

Officials said Mr Hideo Tanaka, the Japanese Ambassador in Manila, had obtained details of the incident from the Filipino Government today. His report said a patrol boat had spotted The Hegg off Mindanao and ordered her to stop. Filipino officials claim she ignored the order and attempted to sail away.

The air force was then ordered to fire warning shots over her, but the Japanese captain failed to respond and propeller-driven T28s fired at the vessel. The cook was wounded in the legs, arms and stomach. The other 21 crew were uninjured.

Japanese government officials said today that it seemed "unbelievable that a ship belonging to a reputable company would carry arms for insurgents." The owners of The Hegg, the Kita-Nihon Oi Kaiun Company, also denied that the tanker was carrying arms or ammunition.

A spokesman said the captain had contacted the company by radio telephone to say his ship had been attacked 24 miles off the coast of Mindanao.

Japanese officials said the Government would question the crew and obtain a detailed explanation from Manila "before we decide on diplomatic action."

□ Manila: Mr Carlos Romulo, the Philippines Foreign Minister, said today the aircraft which attacked the tanker were acting in legitimate defence of national security (Reuter reports).

He said in a statement that the Hegg was suspected of carrying terrorists and about £5m worth of arms and explosives.

Mr Romulo and Brgadier-General Delfin Castro, the Southern Philippines military commander, said The Hegg was not flying a flag, was well inside Philippines waters, and ignored signals to halt before the assault by two aircraft.

General Castro said the pilots flew so close in their machine-gun and rocket attack that they could see the words "dangerous cargo" painted on the hull.

Mr Romulo said military authorities were closely monitoring sea traffic in the area because of an intelligence report that a cargo vessel would attempt to land guerrillas and war materials at Sarangani Island, off the southern tip of Mindanad.

The aircraft had fired 30 machine-gun rounds and two rockets in an attempt to disable the ship, he said.

Mr Tanaka said after meeting Mr Romulo and Mr Manuel Collantes, Deputy Foreign Minister, that the Philippines side appeared suspicious of The Hegg from the outset.



Army demands power

Sattar feels the heat in Bangladesh

From Trevor Fishlock, Dacca, Jan 18

Only two months after the presidential election Bangladesh has entered a new period of uncertainty and pessimism, with the survival of President Abdus Sattar's Government in question.

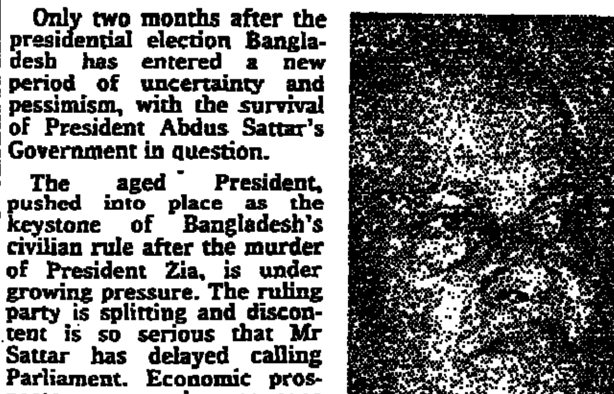
The aged President, pushed into place as the keystone of Bangladesh's civilian rule after the murder of President Zia, is under growing pressure. The ruling party is splitting and discontent is so serious that Mr Sattar has delayed calling Parliament. Economic prospects are causing concern and the Army is demanding the place in government that it regards as its due.

These pressures are potentially damaging to Mr Sattar, but the most crucial is the struggle between him and Lieutenant-General H. M. Ershad, the Army chief.

Mr Sattar is adamant that the forces have no place in government in a democracy. He has thus set himself squarely against the Army, which believes it is owed a living. Partly because of its role in Bangladesh's creation, and because of its power, it thinks it should have a say in government and continued access to privilege and patronage.

Zia well understood that the Army wanted a satisfactory slice of the pie, so he trebled the defence budget and made the forces feel he cared for them.

At the same time, he did not share the usual soldier's contempt for politicians. His gradual move from military to civilian rule caused uneasiness among some officers and dislike of the way things were going was one reason why a group of them killed him last May.



Sattar: No Place for army in government.

After the murder, General Ershad earned respect for sticking by the constitution. He went to Mr Sattar's sickbed, helped him into his clothes and saw him sworn in as acting President. General Ershad has spoken of his commitment to civilian rule. I am soldier, not a politician.

If the officers expected Mr Sattar to accommodate them they were mistaken. They found themselves dealing with an obstinate man of 75 who made it plain that times had changed.

In statements to newspapers General Ershad made the case for the Army as a stabilizing force. He said it had to have its place, had to be made happy. He did not himself seek power, and the Army did not want to govern.

His statements are intended partly for consumption in the cantonments, to convince officers he is working for their interests.

The President has now responded to pressure, mistakenly some think, by setting up a national security council, comprising ministers and service chiefs. General Ershad has rejected it, saying it would not serve the Army's demands and aspirations, although what these were he did not specify.

The Government thinks the Army wants the security council to be senior to the Cabinet. The President wants it to be advisory. Anything else, he feels, would make him the front man for a leadership strongly influenced by the Army.

A precipitate move by the Army is, however, unlikely as long as General Ershad is in control. Officers also know that the country's problems are huge and that its economic supporters would be furious if the Army moved in.

Mr Sattar also upset the ruling Bangladesh National Party by making Dr A. Mirza Huda, who is not a party member, Vice-President. The politicians wanted the job to go to one of their own elected number and some are upset by the re-appointment of Mr Shah Aziz as Prime Minister.

Ershad: Working for officers' interests.

Zia formed the party and without his powerful presence the old strains are showing. Mr Sattar at odds with the party and the Army, and facing economic problems, has become isolated. It is possible that skill and judgment could work the necessary compromises, but without these the days of his leadership could be numbered.

Pakistan vows justice for Bhutto terrorists

From Basan Akhtar Islamabad, Jan 18

Al-Zulfikar, the urban guerrilla group, poses a serious threat to the internal security of Pakistan, Mr Mahmood Haroon, the country's Interior Minister, has claimed. The guerrilla group is allegedly headed by Mr Murtaza Bhutto, the son of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the executed former Prime Minister.

Mr Haroon, who was speaking last night in the newly established Federal Advisory Council at the end of a three-day debate on internal security, claimed that the guerrillas were being trained and armed in Kabul. He vowed that the government would one day bring the leader of Al-Zulfikar, now living in Kabul, to trial.

The Government, he said, had established anti-terrorist squads throughout the country to combat this threat to national security. The Government was also equipping the police with more up-to-date arms and vehicles.

The Interior Minister blamed Al-Zulfikar for a political murder in Lahore at the end of last year, and killing police officers. The Government knew about the hit-list of Al-Zulfikar and provided protection for those whose names were on it. They included ordinary people known for their enmity towards the executed Prime Minister.

Yugoslavs shot dead 'by secret police'

Heilbronn, West Germany, Jan 18. — Gunmen shot dead two Yugoslav exiles of Albanian origin and killed a third last night in what was probably a politically-motivated killing, West German police said today.

The assailants opened fire as the three men, Mr Jusuf Gervalla, aged 36, his brother Bardhosh, aged 31, and Mr Ceka Kadri, aged 28, drove out of a garage in a quiet Heilbronn suburb soon after 10 pm, a police spokesman said.

He said Mr Jusuf Gervalla, who died several hours later in hospital, accused the Yugoslav secret police of being behind the attack.

The Gervalla brothers were described by the spokesman as politically active in support of independence for the Yugoslav province of Kosovo, two thirds of whose population is Albanian.

Both men had been named by authorities in Yugoslavia as leaders of an anti-Yugoslav organization, he said.

Police are searching for two men seen running away from the scene of the shooting, in which at least one handgun was used.

Mr Bardhosh Gervalla, employed in West Germany as a social worker, and Mr Kadri, a journalist who had been given political asylum in Switzerland, were sitting in the front of the car and died instantly in the hail of bullets, the spokesman said.

Prisoners of conscience



USSR: Anatoly Shcharansky

By Caroline Moorehead

Anatoly Shcharansky, chessmaster and mathematician, will celebrate his thirty-fourth birthday tomorrow in the closed prison of Chistopol in the Tatar Automemous Republic, almost certainly in solitary confinement. He is serving a 13-year sentence — three in prison, 10 in strict regime labour camp — for anti-Soviet agitation and espionage. He is due to be released in 1990.

Shcharansky first came under police surveillance in April, 1973, after he had applied for an exit visa to emigrate to Israel, refused on the grounds that he had access to classified material. In spring 1975, he was dismissed from the Moscow Research Institute.

He became a founder member of the Helsinki Agreement in Moscow a year later and not long afterwards was arrested, allegedly for treason and for working for the American Central Intelligence Agency.

He spent the first 16 months in solitary confinement, without charge, and was told that if he went on asserting his innocence he might receive the death sentence. His trial, in July, 1978, lasted five days.

Scharansky has been allowed in the last 18 months only one visit from a relative, his mother, Ida Milgrom, who campaigns ceaselessly on his behalf. Letters to prison never reach him, or are rigorously censored. His living conditions have been described by a released fellow prisoner as disgusting beyond words. His diet is pitiable and throughout his frequent spells in solitary confinement he is given only bread and water.

It has now been decided that he is to be allowed to receive two 2lb parcels each tear, but they are to contain no chocolate, meat or vitamins.

Gandhi arrests strikers

From Our Own Correspondent Delhi, Jan 18

More than 2,000 union officials and strike organizers were arrested in India today on the eve of a one-day general strike. Police and paramilitary forces were put on the alert.

The strike is organized by opposition parties and represents a direct confrontation between Mrs Gandhi and her opponents.

The "preventive" arrests of strike organizers was in keeping with the Government's warning of stern action. Union leaders called the round-up "a high-handed move to terrorize the working classes".

In Bihar, the state government has ordered police to shoot on sight anyone found committing an act of sabotage or violence.

In other states, the authorities say they are ready to prevent disorder when the strike starts tomorrow morning.

The strike has been called by eight unions allied to Opposition parties. They have asked workers to register a protest against the rising prices. But, more specifically, the strike is a protest against the National Security Act brought in by Mrs Gandhi's Government in 1980.

This measure provides for detention without trial and was enacted "to deal sternly with anti-national and anti-social elements". For its critics, the Act had about it the smell of the emergency period of 1975-77.

The strike is also in protest at the Essential Services Maintenance Act, a measure meant to prevent strikes in a wide range of services and industries.

The Government's view is that such laws play a vital part in keeping production going. Some people have been arrested under the very acts they are protesting over.

Union response to the strike call has been mixed. The Indian Trades Union Congress opposes it. Workers in the rail, road and air networks have decided to work normally, and it seems likely that most shops and markets will open as usual. Workers in hospitals, fire services and milk distribution centres have been exempted from the strike. But banks, engineering, chemical and textile factories are likely to be seriously affected.

St Lucia crisis resolved

Castries. — Mr Michael Pilgrim, the opposition leader, has been sworn in as interim Prime Minister of this Caribbean island.

Mr Pilgrim, who heads the small Progressive Labour Party, will run a national unity government until general elections are held within 90 days. He has yet to set a date for the dissolution of Parliament and is expected to name his cabinet soon.

He was chosen by a majority of St Lucia's 18-member Parliament after Mr Winston Cenac, the Labour Prime Minister, resigned under pressure from businessmen, trade unions and opposition parties.

Mr Cenac's opponents accused him of mishandling the economy. A government bid to alter legislation on MPs' expenses unleashed a series of strikes which brought the tourist island to a virtual standstill at the end of last week.

LT fares need not go up again in 1982

LONDON FARES

The Government was prepared to legislate to give the Greater London Council power to operate a concessionary fares scheme on London Transport in the same way that other local authorities do. The Government was also prepared to allow London Transport to pay off its debts over a reasonable period, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said in a statement.

Mr Howell said: Before Christmas I told the House that I was not prepared to legislate to let the GLC go back to their unbalanced transport policies which placed such huge burdens on ratepayers.

I said however that I was willing to see the GLC leader anytime if they had problems. Since then Mr Livingstone and other GLC leaders have come to see me and explain their problems.

In immediate response to these the Government is prepared to act in two respects.

First, although the GLC have powers under the Local Government Act 1972 to spend up to the product of a two pence rate which could be used to finance concessionary fares for the elderly it is clear that they are not in a position to continue to rely on these powers alone for this purpose. Nor are the London boroughs able to get a concessionary fares scheme worked up in time.

I have therefore stated the Government's willingness to legislate to give to the GLC the same powers as other local authorities have, to operate a concessionary fares scheme.

Second, the high cost and low fares policies of recent months have led to a large accumulated deficit. I have said that we would be prepared to legislate to let London Transport pay this off over a reasonable period.

Regrettably the GLC has had to raise fares 100 per cent not just to get back to 1980 levels but to pay for the heavy costs of ineffeciencies imposed on LT in recent months. But in the Government's view there is no need for further large increases in 1982. To talk of this, or of large scale redundancies is to raise thoroughly unnecessary alarm.

The GLC leaders have indicated their wish to come for further talks on the future of London's transport system in the longer term. I welcome these as providing an opportunity for constructive discussion on the needs of the public in London and how these can be best met and financed.

Mr Albert Booth, Chief Opposition spokesman on transport (Barrow-in-Furness, Lab): I welcome Mr Howell's acknowledgment that it is necessary to legislate to deal with the most massive problems created by a combination of the Lords' decision, that of his predecessor (Mr Norman Fowler) about the fares policy, and the decision of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, who cut the London rate support grant.

Having said that, most people who are concerned with this issue are going to regard his statement as totally inadequate to meet this particular problem.

Legislation is required to enable not only the GLC, but Metropolitan authorities up and down the country to continue sensible transport policy as a result of that Lords' decision. Legislation is required to prevent a 100 per cent increase in fares and a 5 per cent cut in services taking place in London.

The minister should give a clear assurance that since Mr Heseltine cut £110m off London's rate support grant on the grounds that the GLC fares policy involved overspending, when this new fares policy is brought in which involves a 100 per cent increase in fares, Mr Heseltine will restore that £110m to the GLC.

If the GLC operate the legal powers he intends to confer upon them to provide from the rates a fares concession for the elderly, this should not be held to be an increase in rates expenditure and thereby attract a further penalty from Mr Heseltine.

What is the estimate of how much extra it will cost London ratepayers to provide this concessionary travel arrangement for the elderly as a result of the fares increase placed upon them?

What indication can he give of how the fares requirement will be calculated for repayment of the loan in view of the fact no one has any experience of the effect of a 100 per cent fares increase and the drop in "ridership" which might result?

How quickly will this legislation be introduced bearing in mind councils will have to take decisions within the next few weeks as to their transport budgets for the next year?

Mr Howell: I reiterate it remains the clear view of the Government not to propose legislation to allow the GLC to go on crushing the ratepayer. There is one omission from his many questions that surprises me: he expresses no sympathy for the plight of elderly people frightened by some of the enormous increases in rates proposed for them.

The 100 per cent fares increase which the GLC has approved is regrettable; it appears to be necessary to finance not merely getting back on the path of fares that prevailed before May 1981, and getting some stability and balance between the ratepayer and the farepayer, but also to finance the substantial increases in costs that have resulted from the extremely cavalier attitude of the GLC to the operations of London Transport in recent months. This is why this regrettable and deplorable increase of 100 per cent appears to be necessary.

On the GLC expenditure budget generally, some money will indeed be going back. As to the question of rates penalties being incurred if the GLC



Howell: Unnecessary alarm. Booth: Massive problems

proceeds, for instance, with its concessionary fares policy, this is a matter for the expenditure priorities of the GLC. It is for them to decide their priorities and expenditure in a way which maximises efficiency and is consistent with overall public expenditure restraints.

What I have done in prompt response to the requirements of the GLC is to offer two ways of enabling it to proceed and make a budget for 1982 with London Transport which is legal.

On the repayment of the loan, offered to the GLC to give powers to operate for five years, it is for the GLC to decide to take the offer. It may have other sources of funds, and it is for them to decide how much they wish to take. I am giving the GLC more room for manoeuvre so it can proceed.

The speed of legislation must depend on the Leader of the House. The Government wants to move as quickly as possible, particularly with concessionry fares, because I was concerned at some of the unnecessary scaremongering going on about the threat to old age pensioners' concessions. There was no need for it, and the Government has acted promptly in making the position clear.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C): The present situation is unfair on concessionary fares for pensioners, since those in London get free fares whereas many other parts of the country with elderly populations find it almost impossible for local authorities to subsidise them because the people who are paying rates are the same people getting concessionary fares.

Would he look at the whole question of whether this should not be done on a broader national basis rather than on the present unfair basis which is discriminating in favour of London?

Mr Howell: The Government is proposing to bring forward legislation to put the GLC in exactly the same position as practically every other local and metropolitan authority. It would be up to the GLC to decide, as it is up to other local authorities to decide, what proportion of their resources they wish to use for concessionary fares for pensioners or other support for other groups of people.

Mr William Pitt (Croydon, North-West, L): His statement moves us no further forward from the House of Lords decision. It has thrown the future of London Transport into chaos and put London, vis-a-vis transport, out on a limb vis-a-vis the rest of capital cities in the West.

Will the Government seek legislation to promote a properly subsidized transport system in our capital cities?

Mr Howell: He is quite unjustified and unwise to speak about chaos. There is no reason why there should be chaos and there is every reason why the present situation can be used by the GLC to get London Transport on a fair and balanced footing, and why future talks with the GLC and other local authorities should discuss more fundamental issues which arise.

I can only assume that he would like to see low fares, low rates and low taxes as well. But there happens to be a matter of deciding who pays, and who pays when a major bungle has been made by the GLC.

Mr George Cunningham (Islington, South and Finsbury, Ind Lab): Will the minister accept that in every other major capital city in Europe subsidies are required to save city transport which are now, at least possibly, illegal in this country?

In addition to the temporary legislation which he is offering in respect of the GLC, has the Government any intention of bringing forward legislation later to clarify the situation with regard to such subsidies?

Mr Howell: The clear legal advice, and the Government's view based on that, is that the position for 1982 is within the law if the GLC proceed with the 100 per cent fares increase and that no more is required as far as the law is concerned.

As to the longer term, I have recognized more fundamental problems are clearly raised by what is recognized as a complex judgment. The GLC have said they wish to see me and I shall be talking with the metropolitan authorities. We will need to look at some of the difficult issues.

But it is wholly wrong to be rushed, as some MPs were suggesting before Christmas, into early legislation of the kind which would put the clock back and allow the GLC to carry on punishing the ratepayers in the way they were doing. (Labour protests)

Sir John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): What increase in paying passengers resulted from cheaper fares?

Mr Howell: I do not know the precise number but some of the claims made for the dramatic reduction in fares practice, first in South Yorkshire and then in Greater London, have been wholly unjustified — particularly the claim of a dramatic cut in traffic has not emerged at all. (Labour shouts of "How do you know that?")

The GLC's own estimate was that it would only cut general traffic milage by 1 per cent.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): The responsibility for the chaos lies with Mr Howell, with the London Borough of Bromley and the five law-lords who produced such a confused judgment that different Queen's Counsel up and down the country produced utterly different interpretations of what that judgment means.

Mr Howell: On the question of blame and irresponsibility, he has not got the matter in perspective. A number of people have said they intend to campaign on a clearly-defined political objective which is to get back to the situation in which they can carry on with the extremely heavy burden on ratepayers, many of them elderly and small businesses, at a time which will do damage.

We will do better to follow the line that the Government has suggested from the first — to sit down and discuss the problems and work them out for the future in a sensibe way.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield, North, C): Many old age pensioners were paticularly upset by the supplementary rate increase imposed by Mr Ken Livingstone, which they saw as a nasty underhand way of forcing them to pay for their free bus passes.

Mr John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich, East, SDP): The legal advice like the legal judgment is anything but clear. Can he legislate to clarify what is a reasonable balance between a fare income and essential public subsidy in terms of national public transport and particularly London?

Mr Howell: The legal advice to the Government is clear — that in 1982 the GLC are within the law and can legally have this regrettably large increase of 100 per cent, and no further increase is needed.

There are some fundamental questions of transport planning raised by this whole affair. There is a confederation of interest between the different operators about how best to serve the public need and these matters need to be discussed and looked at, but we should not rush into early legislation to put us back to the mess we were in a couple of months ago.

I shall be seeing the Association of Metropolitan Authorities to discuss the question of support or public transport and if other metropolitan authorities or any others who have problems want to discuss them with me, I shall be happy to do so.

Mr Matthew Parris (West Derbyshire, C): Does he believe that general subsidizing of public transport is all right but that it is possible to go too far? Then how much is too much is a pressing question on which we need to get guidance fairly early on.

Mr Howell: This has been reflected over the years in the whole system of transport supplementary grants. If local authorities or metropolitan authorities have problems I am ready to see them although no specific approach has yet been made to me.

Mr Douglas Hogg (Grantham, C): Despite the actions of the GLC there is a responsible case to be made for subsidizing public transport but not for local ratepayers to have to do it. Is there not a case for a more broadly-based system of local taxation?

Mr Howell: That is a much wider issue but the Government has long accepted the case for a degree of revenue support for public transport. The problem with the GLC is that they did not know when to stop.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Education; Prime Minister. Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, second reading. Lords (2.30): Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, committee stage.

Too early to assess the damage

WEATHER

There was no question of the special grants to local authorities faced with weather emergencies counting against the rate support grant cash limit, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, stated when questioned about alleviating the problems caused to farmers and others by the recent severe weather.

The Government had announced that it would pay 75 per cent of net additional expenditure in excess of the product of a penny grant inclusive rate. Some authorities had expressed surprise that the payment was to be on a calculation of a penny rate including grant, but that was the practice which had been followed in the past.

There could be no reason for surprise because the position was made clear in a statement to local authorities issued in 1980.

He repudiated in the strongest possible terms that the local authorities or anyone else involved in the emergency held off because they had doubts about the financial situation. There was no evidence for that allegation, and the local authorities had denied it.

The Government was extremely prompt in confirming that the precedent for financial assistance in times of emergency would be followed and that financial support would be given to local authorities.

He said that recent heavy snow and exceptionally severe weather conditions had caused disruption to normal life in many parts of Wales. Although the situation was gradually returning to normal, conditions remained extremely difficult in many places.

My Agriculture Department and its divisional offices have (he said) cooperated with the farmers' union to do all they can to deal with calls for assistance.

Mr Delwyn Williams (Montgomery, C) said that did not answer the question of what the Government was going to do to help in this dire emergency in which temperatures were 20 degrees Centigrade lower than in 1947. The situation demanded special treatment and compensation.

Mr Edwards said he did not in any way underestimate the scale of the problems faced by farmers. He had discussed the matter with Sir Richard Butler and representatives of the farmers' unions and they had agreed that the first priority was to deal with the emergency and try and get access to farms and to assist in other practical ways.

Sir Richard Butler confirms my belief (he went on) that we are simply not yet in a position to assess accurately the consequences for farms. Milk has certainly had to be thrown away and there will be stock losses. We must look at the situation on the basis of fact and not speculation.

Mr Alec Jones, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales (Rhondda, Lab) said the minister should make a full statement later in the week. What had happened in the last fortnight was something few people in Wales had seen in their lives. It deserved a better response than they had had.

Mr Edwards: Responsibility for dealing with the emergency in the first instance falls primarily on the local authorities. Broadly, they did a good job although they each tackled the problem in a different way.

The Government will come in with financial assistance. The volume of that financial assistance will depend upon the actual cost of the operations and I have confirmed it will not be cash limited.

Steel plants praised for productivity

Striking improvements in productivity like those achieved at the steel plants of Port Talbot and Llanwern were the key to economic recovery and offered the best prospect for the future, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr Barry Jones (East Flint, Lab) who asked by how many, and by what percentage, the total unemployed had risen in Wales since May 1979, was told by Mr Edwards: At December 10, 1981, the seasonally adjusted level of unemployment was 158,700, an increase of 77,300 or 95 per cent over the corresponding level at May 1979.

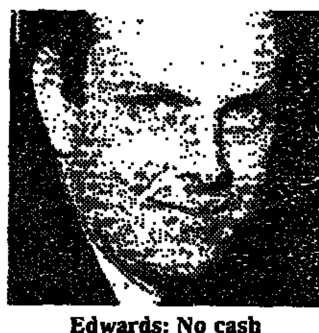
Mr Jones: With the certainty of UK unemployment totals going steeply beyond 3,000,000 and having serious consequences for Wales this year, does he believe the Nissan car plant will be located in Wales?

For those out of work, his approach appears in Wales with regard to the unemployed to be laggardly and unconvincing.

Mr Edwards: I cannot give any information about the location of the Nissan car plant because that is a decision for the company and the company has not indicated to the Government its preference or whether it is going to go ahead with the project at all at this stage.

As to the suggestion that we have a laggardly approach, we are in the middle of by far the greatest programme of site development and factory building that has ever been undertaken in Wales. The number of factory allocations and the number of jobs provided all reached record levels in the past year.

Mr Ian Grist (Cardiff, North, C): How many of today's visibly unemployed were yesterday's



Edwards: No cash limit on aid

hidden unemployed in the shape of appalling productivity figures in Britain? (Labour protests')

Mr Edwards: What is undoubtedly true is that there have been striking improvements in productivity and one only has to look at the performance of the great steel plants at Llanwern and Port Talbot, and the manning levels there and at many other factories, to realize the transformation that has taken place.

They have become enormously more competitive and this gives the opportunity for economic recovery.

Mr Edward Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfil, Lab): One of the responses to high unemployment has been to set up a pilot project to interrogate the unemployed on their availability for work. This is causing resentment.

Has he seen the form and the questionaire put out which asks for personal domestic circumstances of every individual unemployed? Behind it there is a threat that benefit will be withdrawn.

Has this form got any statutory basis? If not, will he recommend that no individual should fill it in?

Mr Edwards: The form is not issued by my department and I have no responsibility for it. I would have thought he would feel it would be helpful if we had as much information as possible about the individuals concerned.

Mr Alec Jones, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales (Rhondda, Lab): Can he give an assurance that the deplorable unemployment figures — for which this Government is responsible — will not be further increased by still more closures in the Welsh steel industry?

Will he tell Mr Macgregor "Enough is enough" and that the Welsh steel industry has taken more than its fair share of steel closures and the efforts of the men at Port Talbot and Llanwern, particularly during the last week, have earned them the right of exemption from further cuts?

Mr Edwards: The British Steel Corporation has paid tribute to the magnificent contribution of those who succeeded in getting into its steel plants in the bad weather, or were unable to get out, and I would join in those tributes. It is the improved competitiveness of those plants that provides the best prospect for their future.

All that has happened in the last week is that the chairman of BSC has drawn attention particularly to the consequences of events in America and to the financial position of BSC. There is no doubt some losses, although we do not know how much, will be made as a result of the bad weather by BSC at Llanwern and Port Talbot, but I do not believe that will of itself affect the future prospect of those plants.

Their prosperity in the long run depends on them being competitive with other steel plants in Europe. It is the achievement of those plants to have reached that kind of competitiveness in the last year.

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport, Lab) asked what further job losses might occur if the port of Bristol's application for Government financial assistance was granted, because it would enable the port further to undercut the South Wales ports.

He called attention to the recent statement by the leader of the Conservative party in Bristol who called for the closure of both Newport and Barry docks.

Mr Edwards: All parties speak for their own local interests. The decision is not to be taken by the leader of the Conservative council in Bristol but by the Government, and they will take account of the important role of the South Wales ports.

Bill bans supplementary rate rises

LOCAL FINANCE

The decision by the Greater London Council to reduce the level of subsidy to London Transport would mean that the amount of block grant payable from Central Government to the London boroughs in 1981-82 would be increased by £60m and the boroughs would be able to recover the grant in February or March this year, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said in moving the second reading of the Local Government Finance (No 2) Bill.

The Bill would abolish supplementary rates and precepts so that local authorities had to rate or precept for complete financial years; enable the Secretary of State to protect from any general loss of grant local authorities which met their individual spending targets; and establish an audit commission to supervize the audit of local authorities in England and Wales.

Recently there had been a tendency of local authorities to levy supplementary rates. In 1981-82 some 30 local authorities issued either supplementary rates or precepts, far more than ever before.

This had unfortunate consequences, particularly for those people who tried to budget family income and make allowances in it for rate payments only to find their calculations were thrown aside by unbudgeted and unwelcome increases in already increased rate demands. The effect on those as low and fixed incomes was particularly harsh, also on industry and commerce in many larger cities.

What MPs had to face, and what was at the centre of the controversy over local government was that parts of local government were determined to scrap the traditional relationship between central and local government - (Labour laughter) whereby local government recognized and accepted the right of central government to set the level of expenditure.

The situation was at its sharpest where local authorities ignored the Government's requests for economy and increased expenditure and financed it by supplementary rates. A Labour Government would not have tolerated such a position — and in fact did not in 1976 when the IMF forced economies.

The overwhelming majority of local authorities who levied supplementary rates were Labour-controlled, determined to increase public expenditure, and increasingly using their position in local government to challenge the electoral mandate of national government. Where there was a clash between local and national mandate, the national mandate must prevail.

The Government welcomed the decision of the GLC to reduce the level of their subsidy to LT to its former level in the current year.

This reduction means (he said) that the amount of block grant payable in 1981-82 will be increased by £60m over what it would have been under the GLC's previous budget.

This grant is payable to the London boroughs, and I shall be taking steps to ensure that the necessary adjustment is made immediately in the supplementary RSG report to be published later this month. This will mean that the boroughs recover the grant in February and March of this year.

The London Boroughs Association were advising the individual boroughs to credit ratepayers who had paid the supplementary rates levied to meet the unlawful GLC precept, including the anticipated loss of grant, or to make repayments to them if a refund was requested. The ILEA precept remained.

The Government welcomed the advice to make credits of repayments. If any borough decided that it required a sanction under section 161 of the Local Government Act 1972 (he said), I will be prepared to give sympathetic consideration to granting such a sanction.

The Bill would ensure there could be no repetition of the rash of supplementary rates and precepts witnessed in a minority



Heseltine: National mandate must prevail

of authorities in 1981-82. Once they had set their rates for the year councils would have to live within their means without further recourse to the ratepayer. Ill-judged increases in spending part-way through the financial year of the sort seen this year would no longer be possible.

It was conceivable that an authority, through no fault of its own, might find that it faced an urgent need for extra revenue which could not have been anticipated at the time it made its rate or precept for the year.

In such circumstances (he said) I would expect the authority to seek my approval for special temporary borrowing under the terms of schedule 13 of the Local Government Act 1972. I would give my consent to applications for temporary borrowing only where it was absolutely essential.

The Bill was intended to deal with the failure of some authorities to work within the Government's public expenditure guidelines. He had always been determined to recognize that the majority of local authorities cooperated with the central government in their expenditure plans.

I am determined (he said) to protect those authorities in achieving their targets from the effects of a general reduction in grant. The Bill ensures that we do not have to penalize authorities indiscriminately as we had to in 1980-81. It will therefore be welcomed by everyone who has the real interests of local government at heart.

The Bill strengthened the duties of auditors, particularly in the crucial area of value for money. The new audit commission would have the duty to undertake comparative studies on economy, efficiency and effectiveness, and the auditor would have the duty to satisfy himself that the authority had made proper arrangements for securing value for money.

One of the objectives in drawing up these proposals had been to facilitate greater use of private sector firms in local authority audit work.

Auditors had a new duty to report immediately on matters of public concern before the money was actually spent, giving the public an opportunity to influence events before it was too late. The Bill widened the circumstances in which electors might object at audit.

A key objective of this part of the Bill was to distance local government audit from central government and individual authorities.

The commission would be independent of central government. The proposal to take away from local authorities the right to chose their own auditors had generated much opposition from local government which claimed it was being singled-out for especially hostile treatment. The facts did not support this allegation.

Few public sector bodies appointed their own auditors; nationalized industries, the NHS, and many other public bodies had auditors appointed by the sponsoring minister. Government departments did not choose their own auditors.

In the private sector, company auditors were appointed by the shareholders and not the directors (Labour laughter). At critical times of difficulties, shareholders did exercise their powers. The local government equivalent of shareholders would presumably be electors or shareholders, but it would be impractical for them to appoint auditors.

I do not accept (he said) that local government is being singled out. On the contrary, our proposals will bring local government more closley in line with practice elsewhere in the economy.

It was not intended there should be a significant change in the surcharge position under the new arrangments.

The Bill specified the audits for which the commission was to be responible. It included all the local authorities in England and Wales, the Passenger Transport Executive and the London Transport Executive.

As large trading bodies, water authorities were more akin to nationalised industries than local authorities. The Government proposed that they should switch to nationised industry style audit arrangements with auditors appointed by the appropriate Secretary of State.

Audit reports on water authorities would be laid before Parliament and published. The policy of using the Monopolies and Mergers Commision to examine cost effectiveness and efficiency would continue.

Inevitably the changes set out would increase the costs of local government audit. The commission would be required to be self-financing apart from grants for the first two years. Audit fees paid by local authorities would be its main source off income.

An increase in fees seemed inescapable but he was convinced that the increase would be repaid many times over by the improvements in local government efficiency.

It was intended that the Commisssion should be established soon after the Bill received Royal Assent. It would be given a skeleton staff and begin detailed preperations with a view to taking over full responsibilities on April 1, 1983.

The Bill was an important step in the public sector. It included important safeguards designed to protect those authorities that were cooperating with the Government strategy and would carry them forward to the next stage which will follow consultation we have begun

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab) said in the original Bill the minister planned to interfere in the rate making process of every local authority by placing a limit on the level of each council's initial rate. That intention had been abandoned, together with the referendum which would have been imposed on any authority seeking to go beyond Mr Heseltine's limit for that council.

The Bill was read a second time by 298 votes to 255 — Government majority, 43.

Those in work to pay for benefits

HOUSE OF LORDS

The government was holding the proportion of benefit expenditure financed by the general taxpayer steady, Lord Elton, Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said in moving the second reading of the Social Security (Contributions) Bill. The change in the proportion of the national insurance fund funded from Treasury supplement would result in a slightly greater emphasis on contributions made to it by people in work.

It was likely that substantially more would be paid out in national insurance benefits in 1982-83 than during the current tax year. The three main sources of funds were the employers' and employees' contributions and the Treasury supplement. The Bill aimed to strike a proper balance between general taxation and contributions revenue and to apportion the burden of meeting the extra cost of benefits where it could most fairly and readily be met.

The overall proportion of benefit expenditure, both contributory and non-contributory, which was met from general taxation had gone up from 37 per cent in 1975-76 to 45 per cent in the current year. The Government took the view that it was not reasonable to expect the general taxpayer to finance a significantly greater proportion of benefit expenditure in 1982-83 when total expenditure on social security benefits would be in the region of £30,000m. The reduction in the Treasury supplement proposed in the Bill would achieve a steadying of this proportion.

The Government had maintained a just balance, which was an essential feature of the national insurance scheme and the whole system of benefits. At the same time it had done everything possibly to see that the changes it was making assisted the present climb out of recession.

Lady Jeger, for the Opposition, said this was a destructive little Bill which loaded contributors with an increased burden. By its measures and policies this Government was deliberately impoverishing increasing numbers of the people.

The Government had revealed its social and economic prejudices. Where there was a need to raise more revenue it should be done on the fairest possible basis of asking those who earned most to give most.

There had been a whole series of stop-gap measures in social security under both governments. It was time for a review of the system. There had to be an entirely different balance between income tax and national insurance contributions.

This Bill meant that the poorest and lowest paid would have no incentive to work harder if they knew they would end up taking home less pay. For the first time in history workers were to contribute to the employment protection allocation. People would be funding their own redundancy.

It was as if a man condemned to death was to be asked to pay for the rope being used to hang him.

Lord Banks (L) said they disagreed with increasing employees' contributions without an appropriate increase in the employers' contributions. Employees' contributions had gone up in real value whereas some national insurance benefits had been declining in real value. The Government's policy for empolyees would seem to be "pay more and receive less".

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said no one who had been associated with social security legislation for any length of time was likely to welcome the Bill with uncritical enthusiasm.

It was up to the Government to demonstrate that the Bill was really necessary. It was causing concern to many people, including some Conservative peers.

The Bill was read a second time.

Attempt to get debate on rail strike

If the attitude of the British Railways Board and British Rail hardened in the curent dispute, the action by Aslef and its industrial consequences would increase, **Mr Lesile Huckfield** (Nuneaton, Lab) said in unsuccessfully seeking an emergency debate.

Mr Huckfield said he sought a debate on the failure of the British Railways Board to increase wages for railway footplate staff as agreed by the Railway Staff National Tribunal and Acas in August, 1981, and its industrial consequences and the results for the travelling public.

This should have urgent consideration (he said) because from the statements emanating from the British Railways Board we can see they are hardening their attitude. If the attitude of the British Railways Board and of British Rail is going to harden, I forecast that the action and the industrial consequences also will increase.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, should intervene. The position taken by the British Railways Board was caused basically by the Government's policies.

£10m to create Highland jobs

SCOTLAND

The Government is prepared to make up to £10m available to help provide new jobs in the Invergordon area of Scotland if no new operator can be found for the British Aluminium Company's smelter which is to be closed, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said in a statement.

Mr Younger said: As I said on the day the closure was announced, the Government regards it as a profound disaster for the area. We fully understand the serious consequences which it will have for Invergordon, and the wider Moray Firth area, both in terms of jobs lost and its effect on the local economy.

The company has undertaken to maintain the smelter in a usable condition for a period of six months and to cooperate with the Highlands and Islands Development Board in its efforts to find a new operator for the plant.

We are already working with the board and locate in Scotland to ensure that every effort is being made to find a new operator. We are ready to assist the north of Scotland hydro-electric board and any potential new operator in their negotiations.

In the event that no new operator comes forward, every effort will be made to try to attract new jobs to the area. The government has agreed to provide a special extra allocation of funds, amounting to up to £10m over the next 3 years, to enable the highlands and islands development board to undertake special measures to provide new employment opportunities.

My department, the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Scottish Development Agency will give the highest priority to finding new projects which may be established in the area.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab) said: In Scotland we are inured to redundancy announcements but I do not recollect anything as insensitive and brutal as this closure announcement made on December 29 at 48 hours' notice. (Lab cheers)



Younger: High priority for new projects

The effect on the area will be devastating. There will be at least 1,500 jobs involved and implications for the rest of Scotland.

What did the Government get out of the negotiations? The company get everything they wanted, and the Government got nothing.

Mr Younger: I agree about the effect of the announcement being made so near to the new year. What was at stake was the survival of the rest of British Aluminium and 2,700 other jobs throughout Scotland. What the Government got out of this was at least some chance of saving the rest of British Aluminium's operations.

Answering a further question, Mr Younger said: I can confirm that without the deal which was done with the company over the smelter at the end of the year there is no doubt that all the other jobs with British Aluminium throughout Scotland would have been in the gravest danger before now.

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Jet-away fashion by Suzy Menkes

How to choose your light clothes in the grip of winter

If you have the choice of wading through the slush in your wellies, or letting the warm sand trickle through your toes, which do you choose?

Winter holidays in the sun have taken off this year with the speed of a Boeing 707. As I edged my car back from Dorset, with a sleeping bag round my middle and a snow shovel on the passenger seat I think I can see why. Next summer hols seem a very long way away, and fare wars seem to have brought Caribbean shores closer.

It is easy to know what to pack for winter breaks in Britain. You take three of everything and wear it all at once. But who wants to expose Stilton-pale limbs in last summer's faded frocks? Something new to pep up your existing wardrobe is an essential.

Buying lightweight clothes now — even in the arid heat of a store changing room — requires a suspension of disbelief. It also requires careful planning to make sure that you are buying forward to fit in with the coming season, rather *than scooping* up the end of a trend.

Since all clothes now, including the once reasonably-priced cottons and silks, are very expensive, you should expect them to work hard for you. This means that basic outfits should be just that — good, well-cut separates in crisp cotton or drill, that will look as good on city pavements next summer as they do for inspecting the temples of Sri Lanka. Although the *West Indies* conjures up instant Hollywood visions of palm tree prints and Hawaiian beach shirts, they are the spice for the sunshine islands. The basics look best in white, navy or safari beige, although colours can be as hot and strong as you like for accessories.

Swimwear is now mostly functional — slim stripes in sporty shapes that team well with the cheerily coloured sweats and track suit velours I was writing about last week.

Silky evening outfits can be a *good investment* for sundowner evenings and for an after life of dinner parties, theatre or summer functions.

By one of those fashion ironies, the sailor suit, redolent of an Edwardian nursery, has floated into fashion just at the moment when the winter cruise has been eclipsed by jetting away from it all.

Most of the good stores have serious cruise wear departments which must be the first *stop* for anyone *shopping* for the tropics in January.

Simpson has a good selection of year-round summer clothes, including the fresh cottons and broderie anglaise of the French firm Bleu Blanc Rouge.

Fortnum and Mason stock Rosemary Reid and the stunning abstract prints on crisp Italian cottons from Lè Purla.

Harrods Calypso Room lives up to its name with a selection of Israeli swimwear, elegant *Italian* and Spanish sunshine clothes and all the essential accessories.

Dickins and Jones are also strong on swimwear, especially the young sporty looks from Tseklenis of Greece and zippy stripes from America's Going Places.

Selfridges has good news for big-built sunseekers. Its extensive range of swimwear includes Busner's collection which goes up to size 24.

Charles Jourdan's cruise wear range (at 39-43 Brompton Road, SW3 only) is as fresh as a tricolour in white, navy and red.

Mango at Midas (New Bond Street, W1; Brompton Road, SW3; Sloane Square, SW3; and Manchester) have tropical prints of palm trees and overblown blooms to take to your paradise isle.





Above left: White cotton fully lined double-breasted blouson jacket £155, pleated shorts £55, striped T-shirt £26, white / gold espadrilles £38.50. All from Charles Jourdan, 39-43 Brompton Road, SW3. Watch by Christian Andrée. Pearl chokers by Adrien Mann. Head scarf, Meenys, 241 King's Road, SW3. Belt by Otto Glanz

Above right: Sailor suit in navy silk trimmed with white, with shirt jacket and pleated shirt. By Chelsea Design Company £190 from 65 Sidney Street, SW3 and mail order; Libertys, Regent Street, W1. White straw boater by Graham Smith at Kangol Diffusion from Fortnum & Mason, Piccadilly, W1; Jenners, Edinburgh next month. White tights, Elbeo. Pearl earrings by Adrien Mann. Cotton gloves by Dent-Fownes.

Far left: Gold silk shantung shirt dress with striped bib front and brass bowtie £126. Two-tone gold and sand culottes skirt £69, also slate, blue. Benny Ong Designer Collection from Harrods end Jan.

Left: Red, white and blue ruched strapless swimsuit £30 by Liza Bruce, Harrods; Whistles shops; Rebecca, Maidenhead, Vanity Fair, Newport Pagnall; Gilana, Weybridge; Kenneth Kemsley, Nottingham; Poppingay, Portsmouth. White poly cotton blouson £17.99, also beige, green, selected Marks & Spencer stores. Watch £77 by Christian Andrée, Garden Workshop, Hatton Garden, EC1; Alex Lavers, Taunton Somerset.

Photographs by John Swannell

Hair by Trevor Bowden at Colombe. Make-up by Mary Vango with Ultima II Scientific Sun Control.

Snippets

■ Half the young brides in Britain would be unwilling to give up their jobs and stay at home even if there were no financial reason to work. Three quarters of those women consider their jobs as important as their husbands' and see their careers as more than just a supplement to the family income.

The modern-minded girl has overturned almost all her parents' prejudices: 85 per cent have had sex with their fiancés before the wedding; 98 per cent plan to continue working after marriage and less than one per cent would discuss a marital problem with mother (let alone go home to her.)

Yet in one single respect, the brides questioned in the 1982 survey for *Brides and Setting up Home* (published on Thursday) are totally traditional. They are almost all (92.8 per cent) getting married in white and spending a small fortune (£50-£250) on a dress that they will never wear again (nearly 90 per cent don't mind if their dress retreats to tissue paper after the big day).

The survival of the wedding dress, when all other attitudes (including the virginity it is supposed to represent) have been swept away, seems to me to be a subject for sociologists rather than fashion editors. Like the brides themselves it is veiled (75 per cent still wear them) in mystery.

■ 1950s fashion — all pointed bras and paper nylon petticoats — has been brought into the orbit of television with the BBC's dramatization of Iris Murdoch's *The Bell*.

The 1950s has been a fruitful source of fashion inspiration for the pop world young for the past four years and the original looks have been recreated (slightly inaccurately) for big screen films like *Grease*, *The Last Picture Show* and Warren Beatty's *Reds*.

This is the first time that I can remember television throwing all the weight of its painstaking period research into this post war epoch. Perhaps it will follow the cult period of Edwardiana, 1930s and 1940s.

But even the afficionados of 1950s drapes or stiletto heeled winklepickers, must have been aghast at the sight of the all-encasing 1950s foundation garments. Queen Victoria's bloomers may have become collectors' items, silk camisoles and cotton petticoats may now be exposed to view. But I doubt if there is any danger of the tights generation swapping their corsets or denim jeans for a roll-on.

■ My last word on sunshine fashion is a warning note. Although I find it difficult to sympathize with the skin problems of a girl friend who has just scorched herself on a three-week holiday in India, adequate protection is essential for the drastic climatic change from European winter to the equator's sunshine.

Ultima II has just launched a Scientific Sun Control system with a wide range of products for different skin types from the sensitive to the swarthy. Delicate spots like ear lobes (useful for skiers) or breasts (for topless tanners) have their specialized products, which include an anti-wrinkle cream for the face and neck.

■ Another disaster area this winter seems to be hair, which has been alternately uncurled by freezing fog or squashed by woolly hats.

A salon treatment is probably the best reviver for hair that has suffered (like the rest of you) from a dose of flu. But a pick-up treatment at home can be tried with Molton Brown's products. They also have a hair care clinic at 58 South Molton Street (£6.25 plus VAT for ½ hour session).

Law Report January 19 1982 **Chancery Division**

Oil not included in 'minerals' in 1880 conveyance

Earl of Lonsdale v Attorney General

Before Mr Justice Slade

[Judgment delivered January 15]

His Lordship held that the phrase "mines and minerals" was an indefinite term with many different meanings in different contexts; that there was no rule of construction which required that it should be construed as including oil or natural gas, and that there was no clear evidence that the phrase included oil or natural gas in the vernacular of the mining world, landowners and commercial men in 1880 or 1935, and accordingly that a conveyance of 1880 and a deed of exchange of 1935 did not operate to vest rights to oil and natural gas under a portion of the Irish Sea in predecessors of the Earl of Lonsdale. His Lordship so held in a Chancery Division action brought by James Hugh William, seventh Earl of Lonsdale.

Mr Donald Rattee, QC and Mr Roger Horne for *Lord Lonsdale*; Mr Leonard Bromley, QC and Mr John Mummery for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE SLADE said that the Earl of Lonsdale sought against the Attorney General a declaration that the ownership of any oil and natural gas under certain areas of the sea-bed off the Cumbrian coast, and referred to as the "Lonsdale off-shore areas," "down to the bottom of the coal measures" in and under such areas was vested in him as tenant for life under a family settlement dated October 5, 1936.

No declaration was now sought against Ultramar Exploration Ltd.

The action raised questions of construction of four documents, namely, a lease of 1860, articles of agreement of 1880, a conveyance of 1880 (executed in pursuance of an option to purchase) and a deed of exchange of 1935, affecting strips of the sea-bed used or intended to be used as barriers.

The principal question was as *to the proper interpretation to be* given to certain words in the conveyance of 1880, whereby the Crown conveyed to the second Earl, Lord Lonsdale's predecessor, its interest in certain specified mineral substances, to wit "Coal culm ironstone and fireclay," lying under the Lonsdale off-shore areas, and also "all other mines and minerals, if any, down to the bottom of the coal measures in and under the same tracts of land".

It was common ground that by January 1935 *the "mines and minerals*, if any", conveyed by the 1880 conveyance had become vested in the Lowther Estates Ltd (the Lowther company) in fee simple subject to certain incumbrances. The 1935 deed of exchange effected an exchange of strips of land.

For Lord Lonsdale it was contended that "mines and minerals", as used in the 1935 deed, included oil and natural gas.

For the Attorney General it was pleaded: "Oil and natural gas are by their nature a fluid and a gas which respectively flow or permeate and are not mined. Natural gas, in the form of firedamp, at the respective times of the 1860 lease and the 1880 conveyance created hazards in a mine. Neither oil nor natural gas would at either of those times have been regarded as a mineral substance or mine or mineral to be conveyed for value. . . ."

The three principal issues therefore were; (1) did the phrase *"mines and minerals"* as used include oil and natural gas? (2) If so, what did "down to the bottom of the coal measures" mean? (3) If rights to oil and natural gas were granted in 1880, were those rights revested in the Crown by the Acts of 1934 or 1964?

There were three unconnected general principles of construction to be considered; first, that in construing any commercial document the court had to do its best to place itself in thought in the same factual background as the parties were at the time they *entered into the transaction*.

Second, grants by the Crown usually fell to be construed in the manner most favourable to the grantor; see *Attorney General v Ewelme Hospital* ((1853) 17 Beav 366,385); *Feather v The Queen* ((1865) 6 B & S 257,283,284) and *Viscountess Rhondda's Claim* ([1922] AC 339,353).

Third, if a particular word in a written instrument bore an "ordinary sense", the burden of displacing that sense fell on the person who asserted that it did not bear that meaning in the context; *see Robertson v French* ((1803) 4 East 130).

The relevant "factual matrix" to be considered included the facts that the fourth Earl was the owner of adjacent land; that natural gas and oil, like coal, were hydrocarbon substances occurring naturally in the interstices of the underground rocks through which they could move horizontally and vertically.

Although some gases contained nitrogen or helium, natural gas was ordinarily composed of the hydrocarbon known as methane or firedamp. The National Encyclopedia of 1881 described firedamp as "this terrible scourge of our coal mines."

By 1880 it was known that the bituminous substance known as "petroleum" had considerable potentialities for commercial use, and Acts were passed in 1862 and 1871 designed to ensure its safe keeping.

His Lordship accepted, however, that natural gas situated in Cumberland or beneath the adjacent seabed had never been commercially bought or sold before 1880, and that it was regarded as a dangerous nuisance and not as a vendable commodity. Furthermore, in 1880, no one knew whether oil or natural gas existed beneath the relevant areas, and indeed, so far as the evidence showed, no one had that knowledge even today.

Mr Rattee, for Lord Lonsdale, correctly emphasized that the mere fact that the parties to the articles and conveyance of 1880 might not have specifically *directed their minds to oil and* natural gas would not necessarily have prevented those items from passing to the grantees. If the words "all other mines and minerals, if any" on their true construction were apt to include oil and natural gas, those items would have passed, even though the parties might not have thought of them at all. The Crown, it was said, had not proved any special vernacular meaning in 1880, or a special context sufficient to cut down the wide meaning normally given to "minerals". *Caledonian Railway Co v Glenboig Union Fireclay Co (Glenboig's case)* ([1911]) AC 90), and *Michael Borys v Canadian Pacific Railway* ([1953] AC 217) were referred to.

Mr Bromley, for the Crown, submitted that it would be wrong to treat "minerals" as having any primary ordinary meaning at all. The court had to ascertain its meaning as used in its context in 1880 between businessmen dealing with commercial transactions. No onus fell on the Crown to show that the word did not include oil and natural gas. The word in its context meant those solid substances dug out of the earth by underground working. Any ambiguity should be construed in the Crown's favour.

After a lengthy examination of dictionary definitions and decided cases, his Lordship concluded as follows:

(1) That although the wide sense given to the phrase "mines and minerals" in *Midland Railway Co v Checkley* ([1867] 4 Eq 19) (so as to include "stone"), and *Hext v Gill* ([1872] 4 Ch App 699) (so as to include "china clay") was one which could be attributed to it in a proper context, it could not now be regarded as having a primary or literal sense which was always to be applied in the absence of a sufficiently clear contrary context; see *North British Railway Co v Budhill Coal and Sandstone Co* ([1910] AC 116) and *Waring v Foden* ([1932] 1 Ch 276)

(2) The phrase was capable of bearing a wide variety of meanings including "all such substances as are dug out of the earth by means of mine"; see *Darvill v Roper* ([1855] 3 Drew 294).

(3) Unless its meaning was clear from the instrument itself, the court's first duty was to ascertain what the phrase meant in the vernacular of "the mining world, the commercial world and landowners at the time of the grant".

(4) The vernacular sense could be derived either from direct evidence or by inference; see *Barnard v Farquharson* ([1912] AC 864).

(5) Where a particular vernacular meaning as at the date of grant was established, the court would be predisposed to adopt that meaning. The vernacular test was not however a rigid test to be applied without regard to the other terms of the instrument and the circumstances in which it was used; see *Michael Borys v Canadian Pacific*, per Lord Porter at page 223.

(6) Pointers to the parties' intentions might be (i) whether or not the substance in question was exceptional in use value or character, (ii) what was the general state of knowledge of the substance at the date of grant, and (iii) whether any express powers of working were conferred.

(7) In considering whether a grant or reservation of "mines and minerals" included a specific substance, it was irrelevant that the parties did not actually have that substance in mind, since the test was an objective one.

(8) Finally, that with only few exceptions, the cases considered dealt with solid substances, and not liquid or fugacious substances, such as oil or natural gas, so that those cases should be applied with caution to the latter.

In accordance with the above conclusions, since the draftmen of the 1880 conveyance did not define "minerals", it was necessary to find what the word meant in the vernacular of 1880. His Lordship examined the evidence as to vernacular usage, and found it to be quite inconclusive. It was necessary to fall back on the wording of the documents themselves.

That lead on to the following conclusions: (1) that the 1880 conveyance was not intended to include substances which could be worked only by quarrying, drilling or boring, but only those that could be won by underground working from adjacent land of the grantee.

(2) That so far as the evidence showed oil and natural gas were not, and had never been, capable of being extracted commercially by underground mining, but only by drilling or by means of a shaft dug from the surface, which would have been inconsistent with the express provisions of the 1880 articles and conveyance. The reasonable inference was that the only substances to be extracted would be solid ones.

(3) The words "veins seams" and "boundaries" in relation to the strips of land used as barriers were inappropriate to oil or natural gas. Those points, at the very least, established that the *phrase "mines and minerals,"* which had no definite meaning, was ambiguous and must be construed in favour of the Crown.

It was therefore strictly unnecessary to consider the other issues, but his Lordship proceeded to hold that the phrase "down to the bottom of the coal measures" meant to the bottom of the lowest identifiable seam of coal that might be worth mining.

His Lordship further held that the words "Great Britain", as used in the Petroleum (*Production*) *Act 1934 and* the Continental Shelf Act 1964, in a geographical sense did not extend so as to include territorial waters, and accordingly he reached the obiter conclusions that if any rights to oil or natural gas had passed to Lord Lonsdale's predecessors, they had become revested in the Crown, so far as they related to areas outside territorial waters, by virtue of the Continental Shelf Act 1964, but that in respect of any areas inside the territorial waters they did not revest in the Crown by virtue of the *Petroleum* (Production) Act 1934.

Solicitors: Dickinson Dees, Newcastle upon Tyne; Treasury Solicitor.

Billingsgate

Legend says it was the Gate of Belinus, John Stow that it was the wharf of Mr Biling, to Saxon customs men it was Blynesgate. Today the great market which bears its ancient name — it handles 200 tonnes of fish a day, employs 500 people and opens six days a week — shifts down-river from the City, to reberth three miles away, on the Isle of Dogs. Report by Patrick O'Leary.

The Market's £11m new quarters, overlooking West India Dock, began life as Shed 36, a low profile warehouse nearly 700ft long with a walkway jutting over the water. Built in 1915, it was an early example of reinforced concrete construction. This has been upgraded to modern standards, and on to it has been grafted the extra accommodation required for a market designed to meet the needs of at least the next 60 years.

This includes the hall, where 90 or more merchants display samples of what they have to sell to fishmongers and other buyers. Above, another floor has been added for offices occupied by traders and market administrators. Locker rooms and showers for porters and drivers are also at this level.

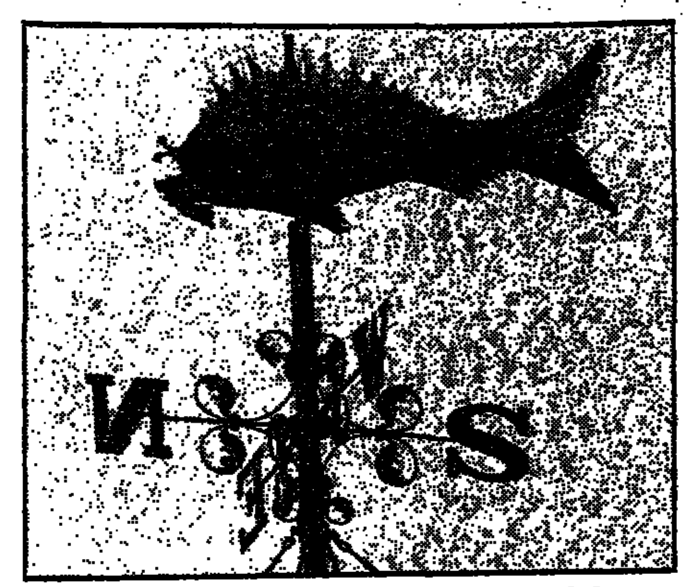
On the ground floor another addition is a cold store with 1,167 tons capacity. Individual merchants can also rent chill room chambers. These are well insulated from the adjoining boiling vats for crab and other shellfish.

Outside, cantilevered canopies protect off-loading bays from the weather. Inside and out, where the finish is in red brick, the marriage between old and new structures presents a sleek, functional look in which the joins do not show.

Altogether, with a separate vehicle service station, parking space for more than 600, from articulated lorries to workers' cars, and access roads, Billingsgate covers about 13 acres.

British love of compromise is apparent in the new premises, acknowledgment we are moving inevitably towards the twenty-first century coupled with a determination to behave as far as possible as if we had yet to leave the nineteenth. At the wish of the merchants, the layout of the market hall and the placing of offices above reproduce the surroundings they have known all their working lives.

The same bell is to be tolled by hand at 5.30 to signal the start of trading. On the roof are replicas of the gilded weather vanes and dolphins on the building in Lower Thames Street; inside is a replica clock, with modern mechanism. It was proposed the familiar figure of Britannia over the original portal should also be reproduced to decorate the steel canopied entrance on the approach road to the new market. But this has been replaced by the arms of the bodies most closely involved, the City of London, the local Borough of Tower Hamlets, and the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers.



One of two glass fibre weather-vanes on top of the new building. They are replicas of bronze casts surmounting the former market.

Telephone at hand

Nostalgia is not allowed to interfere with business. British Telecom was surprised at the level of services required by the enlarged Shed 36. Although market activity dies down by mid-morning, merchants are then busy in their offices checking on the quality and quantity of supplies they can expect the following day, and arranging disposal of stocks still on their hands. On the trading floor, every salesman has a telephone at hand.

Buying and selling follow the pattern founded on years of experience. But whereas, in the old cramped quarters fish was left on lorries until customers, having approved samples, loaded it on to their own transport, there is now room for it to be offloaded under cover to await collection. This should mean quicker turnround of heavy vehicles.

Forklift trucks have been provided for use in the cold store, but porters will still use trolleys, although with quieter tyres than the iron-shod ones that City gents on their way to work had to dodge on cobbled streets.

It was not the protests of pedestrians that drove Billingsgate out of the Square Mile, but the increasing difficulties of working in a building more than a century old, with a basement cold store served by ancient lifts. Outside, conditions were even worse, with a lorry park unable to take many of the waiting vehicles, and consequent congestion in Lower Thames Street.

The need to "do something about Billingsgate", has been realized for many years. It would not be surprising if the archaeologists now moving on to the site uncovered a Roman tablet with a petition for the removal of rude and smelly fishermen.

At one time it was suggested the market might take over Smithfield. There were proposals to redevelop Billingsgate itself, but it would have meant changes in practices which were unacceptable to traders.

Finally it was the London Fish Merchants Association which found the site in moribund Docklands, and asked architect Mr Stephen W. Greenbury, of Newman Levinson and Partners, to design a market which would still be recognizable as Billingsgate. Attempts to raise finance to build it themselves failed, so the traders remain what they have always been, tenants of the Corporation of the City of London.

But whereas hitherto they have been weekly tenants, now they can have the security of agreements running for up to three years, if they wish. Rents are nominal, but traders have to meet the full cost of services. This is likely to be high, since they are paying for all cleaning, lighting and provision of parking space; in the City where many vehicles stood in the streets, much of this expense was borne by ratepayers.

Rates in Tower Hamlets will also be higher than those to which they are accustomed. Tenants have agreed to contribute to a sinking fund to meet the cost of replacing market buildings if necessary in 60 years' time.

Total cost of the new market is expected to be £11m. Construction, in 81 weeks under main contractor Fairclough Building (Southern), accounts for more than £9m. Work is said to have gone without a strike or any more than the minor delays to be expected in a multi-million pound development, such as the failure of a sub-contractor and the discovery of uncharted cellars.

Footing the bill in varying proportions are the City Corporation, Tower Hamlets Council, and the Government, the latter's share coming from funds provided for the regeneration of decayed inner city areas. The City hopes to cover all its costs by selling the old Billingsgate site.

If this shows a profit, after allowing for debts on the original market, the City has agreed to allot some of this to repay money taken out of the Government grant to the Docklands area. It remains to be seen who will benefit most from this complicated piece of monetarism.

The land was acquired by Tower Hamlets taking a lease of 999 years from the Port of London Authority at a peppercorn rent, and then subletting to the Corporation. So in spite of its location, Billingsgate remains a City market, although it required an Act of Parliament to effect the move. Moreover, the fish is still subject to inspection by officials of the Fishmongers' Company.

Nevertheless the whole project reflects basically what its users said they wanted, as the collective wisdom of a consultative committee which includes representatives from the London Fish Merchants Association, the Transport and the London Fish and Poultry Retailers Association.

Tower Hamlets Council has also been involved, in addition to its financial stake, since the opening of Billingsgate is expected to lead to further developments at the almost empty docks in the Isle of Dogs, part of London's East End. Perhaps the most intriguing proposal is that some should be cleaned out and turned into fish farms.

During the transformation of the Shed 36 site, London Docklands Development Corporation has risen from the Westminster foam. It is armed with wide powers and with public money to generate employment over long stretches of the Thames.

Much of the dock area in the Isle of Dogs has been designated an Enterprise Zone, which means industry moving in will enjoy financial and planning benefits. But the boundary excludes Billingsgate.

One service the new market lacks, in common with the 13,000 people who live on the Isle, is a rail link. Since the shelving of plans to extend the Jubilee Line into Dockland, imaginative plans have been put forward for trams and other forms of surface railway to join existing lines.

Mr David Butcher, superintendent of Billingsgate Market, is looking forward to what he expects to be an interesting 12 months. He said: "I see it as a great opportunity for the traders. It is up to the individuals to make the most of it."

The response from firms seeking premises had been encouraging, Mr Butcher said, and space in the market hall itself was oversubscribed. However, the owners of one or two small concerns had decided to retire, or amalgamate.

Fish farm proposal

Mr Don Tyler, chairman of the London Fish Merchants Association, was one of the group of members who found the new site. "The main attractions were the space available, and it was favourably placed geographically", he said. Most lorries delivering to the market came in from the east, early in the morning. He expected the bulk of the fish to be shifted by 8.30am and hoped it would not be necessary to start sales before the present 5.30am opening.

Mr Tyler commented: "Merchants and buyers are very optimistic about the new market. Everyone should be able to do his job more efficiently. We have been so cramped for space, it has been difficult to encourage new buyers". When the move was first proposed most merchants were apprehensive, but they had come to realize that survival depended on leaving the old market.

Billingsgate's present turnover of 200 tonnes a day is modest compared with the 262,000 tonnes a year handled in 1930. But much of the trade today by-passes the market, going direct to big customers. Also, in former days, all the fish arrived at the market complete with heads and entrails, which had to be thrown away.

Consumption of fish and fish products at home has been rising in recent years after nearly a decade of decline. This was accompanied by a fall in the number of independent fishmongers. The trade has been digesting a report inspired by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food which suggested more aggressive marketing.

Mr John Masters, a past-president of the London Fish and Poultry Retailers Association, said traders welcome the report, especially if it led to higher consumption.

Of the new market, members felt this must be a move for the better, although older buyers would miss some of the atmosphere and comradeship of the old one, he said. Their only reservation was concern for West London buyers whose vans might run into heavy traffic through the City on their return journey.

"But we are hoping with the new facilities the fish will be loaded quicker", Mr Masters said. "In theory buying time should be speeded up by half an hour. But only if the fish arrives at the market on time during the night. With weather as it has been this winter, the stuff from the north could be late".

Many porters and other market workers live in the East End, and so are closer to their work than before. But one unlucky employee has a problem. He is that rarity, a resident in the Square Mile; and he does not own a car because of the difficulty of parking in that exclusive area.

If you want to get ahead . . . Mr Manny Abrahams, a porter at Billingsgate for over fifty years, carries a tray of sprats across the snow-covered lorry park of the new market. His leather headwear, traditionally known as a bobbing hat was first worn by his father in 1895.

Frozen asset saved for the City

Departure of the fish trade from Lower Thames Street creates a prime development site in the City. Many buildings round Billingsgate, some of which formerly housed small offices and shops of firms associated with the trade, have already been replaced by the towering offices of banks and other institutions.

That would almost certainly have been the fate of the Market Hall, designed by Sir Horace Jones in the 1870s. It is not as handsome as Smithfield Market, or Holborn Viaduct, other works with which this architect and surveyor to the Corporation of London is identified, but in 1980 Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, listed it as a building of historic interest.

Although this preserves more than half the 1¼ acre site, the riverside lorry park beside the market could accommodate an office block. The hall itself can be adapted to other uses, but there is one obstacle to rapid redevelopment. Its foundations stand on ground frozen for the past 50 years by the breakdown of the insulation of the basement cold store.

Defrosting this area, as well as eliminating the smell, will present some problems, particularly as there have been suggestions the market might provide a home for the London Commodity Exchange, the central market for sugar, coffee, cocoa, pepper, and other products.

When the City Corporation put Billingsgate up for sale, 17 bids were received. These were reduced to four, and later this month the Court of Common Council is expected to name the chosen bidders.

According to a report in the *Financial Times* the Court will have before it a recommendation to accept a joint bid from S. and W. Berisford, international commodity traders, and London and Edinburgh Investment Trust, a private property developer. Whatever the decision, work on a new office building cannot start before the end of this year, as the site will first be the scene of an emergency archaeological dig.

The listing of Billingsgate Market owed a good deal to a campaign mounted by the Save Britain's Heritage society. In consultation with professional advisers, the *society put forward proposals* to convert the old market into a shopping and restaurant complex comparable to the schemes at Covent Garden, and Boston, Massachusetts.

It argued that such a redevelopment was not only desirable but viable, since "those who work in the City suffer from a dearth of places to eat, and lunchtime shopping is severely limited. The result is it is increasingly difficult to get secretarial help in the City"

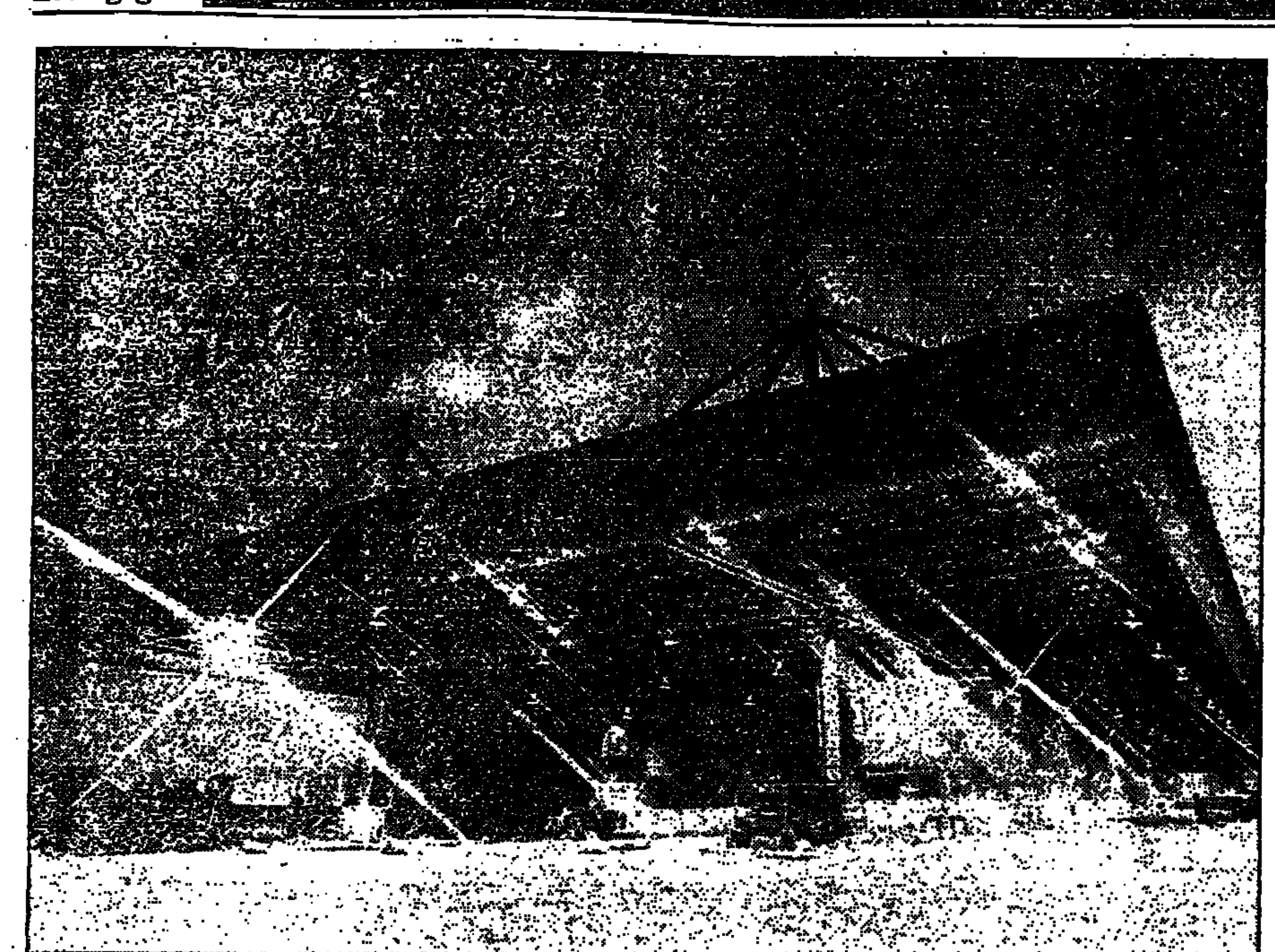
The Save submission also suggested the need for an alighting and picking-up point for tourists visiting the Monument to the Fire of London nearby. But it seems likely the only concession to these views will be provision of restaurants at the back of the market, with a riverside walkway.

Plans will require the approval of the Greater London Council and the Department of the Environment, as well as that of the City Corporation.





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Last chance to lighten Dark Age

Billingsgate lorry park beside the river in Lower Thames Street does not look as if it contained the stuff of which history is made. Yet archaeologists believe that beneath its surface lies evidence that gives them their best and perhaps their last chance of throwing light on the dark age that followed the Roman retreat from London.

Armed with a computer, several hundred thousand pounds and a large plastic canopy tent to keep out the weather they are ready to sift through many tons of soil. What they seek, remains of an early Saxon port, probably rests some 15ft below the surface.

Billingsgate Market itself is of little interest to the diggers. When the Victorian hall was built in the 1870s the basement and foundations displaced whatever signs there were of earlier occupation.

But Roman relics have already been traced in the area. A timber wall from that period once ran roughly along the line of modern Lower Thames Street, and there is a legend that Billingsgate took its name from a pre-Roman prince named Belinus. The Romans left about 410 and although London was known to be a thriving port about 700, the years between, and many of those after, are shadowy.

When the site of New Fresh Wharf, next door to the lorry park, was redeveloped between 1974 and 1978, archaeologists found the timbers of a Roman quay. But what excited them even more was uncovering the ends of two Saxon embankments which clearly ran east beneath the park.

"This gave us a keyhole glimpse of what we might find there", Mr Brian Hobley, chief urban archaeologist at the Museum of London, said. He and his team have been given a year of the lorry park before it is built over, although he hopes this period will be extended.

They have been promised £220,000 from government funds, and £150,000 from the Corporation of the City of London, but Mr Hobley believes "essential work on Billingsgate needs two years and £1m." He hopes to receive donations from banks (several have moved into new office blocks in the area), and other City institutions, and from the United States.

"This is a maximum archaeological rescue operation", he said. "The objective is to understand what was happening after the end of the official Roman occupation. There must have been a gradual collapse of the Roman way of urban trade.

"In the seventh and eighth centuries Billingsgate played an important role in Saxon life. The quality of the material we find could lead to understanding the rebirth of London.

"What happened to the population when the Romans left? Was it a ghost town or did the Saxons live in towns but not in the urban manner?".

He added: "Once the city began to trade again urban functions were renewed. We need dating evidence as to how early that was. If we were to lose this site we would be hard pressed to find another source of such information for another 50 years."

The finds are unlikely, in the main, to be dramatic in layman's terms. What the sharp-eyed team hope to uncover are such mundane articles as seeds, fragments of leather, bones, discarded pottery, tree branches, loose coins, perhaps planks from Saxon and even Roman boats.

The waterlogged state of the ground close to the Thames should have preserved artifacts which would disintegrate in drier soil. Since medieval London Bridge was closer to Billingsgate than the present one, the site should be rich in the kind of bric-à-brac and even valuables that travellers shed as they hurry along.

The quantity of these articles, the depth below the surface at which they are found, and any evidence of the town or country from which they originated are the clues which may be important in scientific investigation. It is here that the computer, which has been allocated specifically for the Billingsgate search, will do irreplaceable work.

Mr Hobley said: "We need information control to record every detail in the ground and the context of each find. This could have a strategic influence on the operation day by day in the light of the data."

There are about 100 archaeologists at work in the City, 60 of them on the staff of the museum, the rest on short-term contracts. It is hoped those deployed at the lorry park will be helped with the manual work by a group recruited from the Manpower Services Commission.

So confident is the museum of making important discoveries that there are plans for a viewing gallery open to the public. Digging up objects is only part of the story for the experts concerned. When they have been removed to the museum, their study and the publication of the conclusions drawn from them, could continue into the early years of the next century.

It will be interesting to see whether any artifacts will relate to an earlier find nearby. In 1825, when the foundations were being dug for the Georgian London Bridge, it is recorded that dredging brought up a Roman silver effigy of Harpocrates, the god of silence; not a deity normally associated with Billingsgate.

Historical interest in this part of London is not confined to peering into the first seven centuries. In the north-west corner of the lorry park are the foundations of medieval St Botolph's Church. It is possible that below these lie the remains of an earlier church. Botolph was an Anglo-Saxon saint after whom no less than three City churches are named.

Old Billingsgate market was in the parish of St Mary at Hill, in Lovat Lane, a church which has absorbed several parishes, including St Botolph's down the years. In October St Mary's holds a Fish Harvest Festival, when fish are brought into the vestible, decorated by members of the trade, and later given to Church Army old people's homes.

The rector, Dr B. A. C. Kirk-Duncan, hopes the association with the market will continue, in spite of its move. There is a special Billingsgate Market Prayer, which contains a reminder that Christ "didst prepare by the waterside a breakfast of fish for disciples that toiled the whole night long"



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Transformations by the Thames

Above, far left: night view of the new building under snow, showing the massive cantilevered canopy, space-framed and constructed in ochre-yellow plasticated steel. It protects the main entrance to the market. Above and left: two views of the market about 150 years ago. A new river wall, in line with the Custom House, was constructed in 1848. Below, left: interior of the former market, designed by Sir Horace Jones and opened in July 1877; it has been listed as a building of historic interest, largely as a result of a campaign by the Save Britain's Heritage society. Below, right: artist's impression of the new market hall, designed by Newman Levinson and Partners.

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Metering a tradition

Few people in the trade now belong to the Fishmongers Company, one of the City's oldest guilds, although that well-known angler, the Prince of Wales is a freeman, by right of patrimony. His father is a past Prime Warden of the Fishmongers.

But the company is still closely involved with the fruits of the sea. In particular it exercises its rights under royal charter to inspect the fish sold at Billingsgate and condemn any considered unfit for consumption. The move to the East End will not interfere with this practice.

Mr Gerald R. Watkin, chief inspector, has two assistants, known as fishmeters. The origin of this title is uncertain, but is thought to date from the days when they were responsible for enforcing the law on weights and measures as well.

Their powers are formidable; recently a consignment of fish from Africa had to be destroyed, representing a loss of £50,000 to £60,000. But it is unusual for the inspectors, as they walk through the market to have to condemn products on sale.

"There has been an improvement in the quality of fish in the last 25 years", Mr Watkin said. "On the whole the trade do the inspecting for us. We have a good relationship with traders, and rarely seize fish off the stands."

Fishmongers Hall stands close to London Bridge, just a short walk from the old market. The fishmeters will now be based at the Isle of Dogs, but Mr Watkin will divide his time between the new market and his office in the hall.

The work requires a good deal more than a good nose. A few years ago they were able to trace a form of mild poisoning to smoked mackerel. "In a couple of weeks we had organized a meeting with ministry experts", Mr Watkin said, "and in two months a code of practice had been formulated.

"We alerted the fishermen and the processors, and for the last two seasons there have been no cases of this poisoning. We act as a catalyst, and sometimes also as a buffer between the trade and Government."

A set of rules has also been produced to guarantee that oysters are free of harmful bacteria. The company's role is now seen principally as trying to help traders, and to advise environmental health officers, rather than to act as a policeman. In the past the Fishmongers had their own court, which could impose fines or put traders in the stocks.

In those days members of the company often owned estates along the Thames and the River Lea. Much of the fish sold, including salmon, was caught in the Thames, and any that was unsold thrown back into the river.

Nicholas Ashford on 'a remarkable freshman year' in the White House

365 Reagan days — now the real test begins

All in all 1981 proved to be a remarkable freshman year for President Reagan. Even Mr Reagan's critics (and their numbers are growing daily), who are strongly opposed to his supply side economic policies and bitterly resent his cuts in social programmes, concede that the year was one of the most extraordinary demonstrations of presidential leadership in modern American political history.

Political observers, seeking parallels, have compared Reagan's first year in office with that of Presidents Wilson, the two Roosevelts or, more recently, Lyndon Johnson. Professor Jeff Fisbel, author of a forthcoming book entitled *Presidents and Promises* even went as far as to say that the President's performance had been "virtually unparalleled in the modern presidency"

Certainly the achievements of the Reagan Administration to date have been many and contrast sharply with the fudged first year of the Carter Administration. The President has achieved the largest tax cut in American history. There has been a dramatic slowdown in the growth of federal spending and the elimination or reduction of many social programmes. A major effort has been made to reduce the regulatory structure.

All this adds up to what Administration officials like to term the start of the "Reagan revolution" which looks like having as radical an impact on American society as President Roosevelt's "New Deal" during the 1930s. The President came to power with a mandate for change, and change there certainly has been.

Less spectacularly, but of no less significance, has been the reassertion of executive power by the Reagan White House. Congress has no longer been able continuously to thwart the will of the President as it did during the Carter era. Reagan's spectacular victories on the budget and tax cuts were dramatic evidence of the way in which the President managed to dominate the first session of the ninety-seventh congress. At the same time the President has attempted to redefine the relationship between Washington, the state capitols and the city halls.

The President's determination to build up the country's defences, to "close the window of vulnerability with the Soviet Union" has given the country a new sense of strength and self-confidence. The shooting down of two Libyan fighters last August — insignificant though the incident was in military terms — proved an important morale-booster for many Americans who were still wincing over President Carter's botched attempt to rescue the American hostages from Iran.

'The President retains one important card up his sleeve, his own personal prestige'

The administration's handling of foreign affairs was less successful — particularly during the early months — but not without its achievements. The President's firm stand over Poland has now won wide support within the United States, even though reaction in Europe has been more mixed. He has stood up to the Russians as he promised to during his election campaign, but his embracing of the "zero option" in the Geneva missile talks has enabled him to shake off the image of a "cowboy president", hell bent on a shoot-out with the Russians and he managed to turn the near-fiasco of the sale of AWACS surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia into a stunning personal victory.

Of course, there have been failures, too. The President received a bloody nose on social security. He was snubbed over Congress's refusal to endorse his nominee, Ernest Lefever, for the human rights post at the State Department. The David Stockman affair was a serious embarrassment. And on a number of other issues — clean air, voting rights, conscription — he was forced to amend positions which he had adopted during the 1980 election campaign. But the early positive image established by the President tended to overshadow these setbacks.

The question which is now being asked on the eve of the first anniversary of the President's inauguration is — will Reagan be able to maintain during 1982 the momentum which his Administration established during his first year in office?

The almost unanimous answer, from friend and foe alike, is "no". "The magic has faded", "the paint is beginning to peel", are some of the phrases being used to describe the Administration as President Reagan prepares to make his State of the Union address, on January 26. Even his closest advisers concede the going will be much tougher in 1982.

This year, unlike 1981, when the White House's own end-of-year review awarded the Administration an "A" or "A plus" for its performance in most sectors of government, there will be a genuinely independent test of the Administration's performance in most sectors of government, including the mid-term elections in November. All 435 members of the House of Representatives and 33 of the 100 members of the Senate will be up for reelection.

Many Congressmen, aware that self-preservation is the first law of politics, are beginning seriously to consider the effect of the Reagan Administration's polices on their own election prospects. Those who enabled the President to bulldoze his economic recovery programme through Congress are beginning to wonder how the voters will react now that the hoped-for recovery is still lurking somewhere beyond the horizon.

At the onset of the Reagan Administration, Republican leaders were confidently predicting that their party would be able to gain a majority in the House of Representatives in this year's elections, thereby gaining control of both Houses of Congress. Now, however, the party's leaders believe they will be lucky to hold on to those seats in the House which they already possess.

The principal reason for this change in outlook has been the failure of the Administration's radical economic policies to produce the recovery which was confidently being predicted during the 1980 campaign. The President may have won some scintillating Congressional battles for his economic package, but he is beginning to look in danger of losing the war. It has become just as clear to unemployed car workers in Detroit as to Wall Street Bankers that it will take more than a wave of the President's magic wand to put the economy to right.

The President's key election pledge — to achieve a balanced budget by 1984 or even earlier — has already been abandoned. Instead the Administration is now struggling to find ways of keeping the annual deficit below the $100,000m mark during the next three years. Like Mrs Thatcher, the President has discovered that cutting public spending is more difficult than it may at first appear.

The only way the President can hope to keep the deficit at a manageable level is either to make further massive spending cuts or else to raise taxes, which the President is anxious to avoid. Neither course of action will help to win voters to his side. He could, of course, reduce defence spending, which is scheduled to rise by 15 per cent next year. But that would mean abandoning another election pledge — to make America strong again — which the President is most unwilling to do even though Congress is bound to step up pressure for defence cuts.

Until now the President has been able to blame the country's economic woes on the previous Carter Administration. But in the second year of his Administration they become *his* problem. The best he can hope for is that the recession will start to lift this summer in time for a modest recovery to have begun before the November poll takes place.


President Reagan: still the natural leader

Concern about the electorate's attitude towdards the Government's programme will mean that Congress in 1982 will be very different body to what it was last year.

Liberal Democrats — known as "Gypsy Moths" — are aware that support for additional cuts in Federal spending will cost them votes. Similarly the Conservative Southern Democrats — "Boll Weevils" — who voted for the President's economic programme in 1981, will not be so willing to be seen on the President's side this year.

Mr Bob Michel, Republican Leader in the House, commented recently: "It is going to be more difficult this year. We went through a lot to get a $4,000m cut from the budget in December; now they are going to ask for another $30,000m cut this year. That is going to be tough."

This does not mean the President has enjoyed his last Congressional triumph. But from now on it means he will have to get his victories the hard way by protracted guerrilla warfare with Congress, just as his predecessors have had to do in the past. This will test the range of the President's abilities much more than they were last year.

However the President retains one important card up his sleeve, his own personal prestige. The "great communicator", as he has become known because of his mastery of the mass media, is the most popular president since Dwight D. Eisenhower, according to the polls. Although his ratings have started to sag he still manages to portray himself as a natural leader who is at ease with *his* powers and the burdens of office. And there is not a Democratic leader in sight who can measure up to him.

This year, therefore, is likely to be the real testing ground of the President and what one Congressional leader has described as his "riverboat gamble for the nation". If the economy starts to pick up and the President can contain the budget deficit and at the same time retain his personal popularity, then the Republicans could be well on the way to another major victory in 1984. But if there is no economic recovery and the country is faced with an even larger deficit, then a swing against the Republicans this November could be the harbinger of an even greater switch in voter allegience in three years' time.

Oil wealth that could turn into fools' gold

When the Government decided to sell the British Gas Corporation's stake in the Wytch Farm oilfield, Mr David Howell, then Energy Secretary, argued that private companies are better at developing Britain's oil resources than nationalized industries. No evidence was produced to support his assertion.

The Opposition pointed out that BP, British Gas's partner in the oilfield, had consistently underestimated its size and had argued against heavy investment. On all the published evidence the private company was wrong and the nationalized Gas Corporation was right. But still Mr Howell insisted that British Gas must sell its stake.

Anything Mr Howell could do, Nigel Lawson could do better. After Wytch Farm the Government now intends to sell the North Sea oilfields owned by British Gas and by The British National Oil Corporation (BNOC). A decade of patient, efficient and profitable public endeavour is sold off. Never mind the facts, remember the dogma.

The sale of North Sea assets is reckoned to raise something in the region of £1,500m, although the Government prefers to refer vaguely to "prevailing market prices at the time of sale". A cut of £1,500m in the public sector borrowing requirement might do a little to restore the Conservatives' sagging morale, but to sell assets which would produce wealth for 20 years is an excessively high price to pay for a few seconds of back bench euphoria.

The sum of £1,500m might be enough to cut the standard rate of income tax by about 1½p in election year, or the Government might set the money against the bill for ten weeks' unemployment benefit. Either way, the next government will have to face the future without the comfortable cushion of publicly owned oil reserves.

Alongside the oil measures is the more insidious attack on the gas industry. The Government has decided to take away from British Gas the right of first refusal to buy gas found on the continental shelf. In future oil companies will be able to sell gas directly to large industrial and commercial concerns.

The Minister justifies this eccentric decision by talking about competition lowering prices. His argument will not bear examination. All the evidence supports the conclusion of many industrialists that the Government proposals will rapidly increase the price of gas to industry.

Oil companies have persistently argued that British Gas is paying them too little for the gas which they produce. Last year oil men were talking about the need for a wellhead price of 25p a therm; now the talk is of 30p. If the Gas and Oil Bill goes through Parliament, oil companies will undoubtedly use their newfound discretion to push the wellhead price closer to their target. A wellhead price of 30p a therm means industrial gas selling at between 40p and 50p. Some cynics have even suggested that oil companies will use their new power to push gas prices up to the level of oil prices — a convenient means of protecting their major product.

The Government's own predictions are clearly contradictory. Mr Lawson states confidently that gas prices will not go up, yet he also argues that the Government measures will encourage the oil companies to explore more assiduously for gas. How is this trick to be worked? The oil companies themselves have insisted that they will increase their exploration efforts only if they get higher prices.

The Government's plans will gravely damage the integrity of Britain's supply system. At present British Gas controls the whole transmission grid. It is responsible for balancing supply and demand. It meets the winter peak of demand by signing interruptable contracts with industrial companies who arrange alternative fuel supplies. If long periods of cold weather or the loss of a sea line puts pressure on the system, the interruptable supplies are cut and the balance is struck so that at all times the domestic consumer is protected.

If the Government has its way, the large industrial market will come to be supplied directly by the oil companies through the public transmission system. Many people have doubted the feasibility of the proposal. Several industrialists have hinted that they would never trust their fuel supplies to an oil company that might rely on only one or two gas fields. British Gas lost the sea line last year, but quickly compensated by increasing supplies from other sources. Even a large oil company would offer no such secure spread of gas resources.

But if, against all the difficulties, the oil companies were able to capture a large part of the industrial market, British Gas's subtle balancing of supply and demand would come to an end. It would be no fun having gas central heating in your house during a cold winter if British Gas were deprived of flexibility of interruptable contracts. Instead of cutting off large customers who have contracted for an alternative fuel supply, British Gas would have to cut off domestic consumers. Mr Lawson should explain the implications of his policy in detail to the 14 million gas customers who stand to lose by his blinkered policy.

Until now the Government has had an easy ride in the Commons on the oil and gas issue. Its timing stifled effective debate on its proposals. The surprise announcement in October was strong on ideology and short on detail, and was presented to the House through a device which denied immediate and lengthy debate. The convoluted Bill itself was published just before Christmas.

Today's second reading debate and the committee stages of the Bill will be an important test of the Opposition's resolve during the remainder of this parliamentary session. The issue is a matter of considerable public interest. The Government is selling off a major part of Britain's energy wealth. The price will be low, the gain will be short-lived and the disadvantage may persist for two decades. My union intends to lead a major campaign to prevent this disastrous Bill becoming law.

David Basnett

The author is general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers Union and chairman of the TUC economic committee.



Herr Egon Klepsch (left) Christian Democrat candidate in today's election for president of the European Parliament at Strasbourg. At right Herr Martin Bangemann whose picture was incorrectly identified yesterday as Herr Klepsch.

The new man who has to sell the Tories

Rightly or wrongly, soap salesmen have a reputation for toughness and zeal: presumably it was the wilier skills of their predecessors which gave rise to such pejorative expressions as "Don't give me that soft-soap". Whichever reflects reality more accurately, it was no doubt sensible of the Conservative Party, at this low ebb of its fortunes, to bring in a man trained in that school and to call him forthrightly Director of Marketing.

Such is the title and role of Christopher Lawson, aged 59, whom the party's newish chairman, Cecil Parkinson, has lured from early retirement to Smith Square to help sell Conservative policies and achievements to a sceptical electorate before the next general election in, at the latest, May 1984. Mr Lawson has spent much of his commercial career in marketing, starting with soap and ending up with potato crisps, pretzels and other "junk food" requiring, like his new product perhaps, to be taken with a pinch of salt.

His marketing career owed everything initially to chance. The son of a regular army officer, he had gone straight into the RAF in 1941 from Magdalen College School, Oxford, serving nine years as a regular officer. Deciding his salary there would not allow him to educate his two sons and daughter similarly, he closed his eyes one morning and pricked the job advertisements column of the *Daily Telegraph* with a pin. Destiny guided him to the firm of Thomas Hedley, part of the economy-sized American soap and detergents empire of Procter and (suitably) Gamble.

"Fate is either with you or against you," he commented philosophically at his office yesterday. At Hedley's he spent nine years going through the gamut of jobs, from salesman and sales manager through marketing to personnel. Then he was "head-hunted" out to Cooper, McDougal and Robertson, now part of the Wellcome Foundation, whose retail side ge set up, successfully selling the Aerosol spray — hitherto an expensive gadget — to a mass public. Around 1963 the head-hunters tracked him down again, this time for Mars Inc, again an American firm, though founded in Britain by Mr Forrest Mars (purveyor of the eponymous chocolate wrapped bar — "a marvellous product", Lawson muses. Will he, one wonders, be able to marvel thus at some new Thatcher policy?)

For Mars he became managing director of a company called Vendepac (now Four Square Catering and Vending), then of Mars Foods, and finally spent almost four years in South Georgia — "super place" — setting up Mars's first venture outside confectionery and pet-foods into what he called, not without an overdue *frisson*, "non-sweet snacks": crisps, pretzels *et al*, the company being equally memorably called Snackmaster Inc.



Christopher Lawson, called from retirement by the Tories . . . and a free suggestion from Mel Calman

Having made a fair amount of money (he is a member of Lloyd's), he decided to retire early to his old home in the Cotswolds, playing a good deal of golf and spending perhaps a day a week at Conservative Central Office. "I had been a political animal most of my life", he explains. "I was a Conservative councillor in Berkhamsted from around 1964 to 1970, and was on the Hemel Hempstead constituency executive for a number of years, up to the time I went to the USA. There of course I knew Cecil Parkinson"(Hertfordshire South's MP).

"When I came back last April and did a bit of work here, I wrote a paper for Sir Harry Boyne (retiring as Director of Communications in March) and for Peter Thorneycroft (then party chairman) on communications and what I thought of them: it wasn't exactly polite, maybe." Parkinson, by then chairman, saw it and said he had better come and do something about it, and Lawson started full-time just a week ago.

A fit-looking man with strong features and an MCC tie contradicting a slight mid-Atlantic twang, he stresses he is no politician. "I'm a communications expert, and that perhaps makes it easier for me to pull out points of policy and say 'These are the things maybe we should be explaining more clearly to the voting public'. Overall, he reckons they must put across more fully what positive steps the Government has taken, what it is currently doing in terms of Bills and policy decisions, and what ideas it has for winning the next election.

As when marketing something more tangible or edible, he sees the need to communicate to the voter/consumer the benefits of the policy/product. "Maybe" (a word of which he is surprisingly fond) "in the past we have kept our brown paper wrappings firmly Sellotaped around the edges, so it has been not only hard to see what it contained but hard to undo it" — not the zippiest metaphor, he admitted, but one saw what he meant. He agreed that an oversold product would produce disappointed purchasers, who would not buy again. "But you should package it correctly. Then people are more likely to buy it."

Exuding energy, he was in the office at 8am yesterday, reading the 1979 general election manifesto "to satisfy myself that some things I was trying to do I could live with. I was pleasantly surprised to find we were sticking very closely to that manifesto document." Convincing the voter that the Government is doing all it can to resolve the problem of unemployment is, he believes, the biggest single task — with inflation and taxation as linked themes. He will be commissioning opinion research in different geographical areas and age groups. "It's easy to waste money in advertising and promotional terms unless one knows the target", he said.

While "fascinated" by current speculation about continued use of the advertising agents Saatchi and Saatchi, he will only say that as a new man in a new job, he is looking at what has gone before. But the Conservatives did win the last election, he pointed out, and advertising presumably played some part in that victory. It was a risky if archetypally commercial sentiment: should the Tories lose next time, might not some conclude that vendors of soap and crisps do not necessarily make vendors of policies?

Roger Berthoud

THE TIMES DIARY

Corruption drama at the Court

It is some time since the Royal Court theatre has made news, but I rather suspect that is going to change soon. The reason will be the latest play by my good friend Gordon Newman who, you may remember, attracted a great deal of favourable attention with his TV series, *Law and Order*. Effectively, this told the same story from different angles (as in the Criminal's Tale, the Brief's Tale, the Policeman's Tale, and so on); the language, and the corrupt collusion of police and lawyers was, to anyone who knows this world, frighteningly accurate.

Next month, the Court stages Newman's *Operation Bad Apple*. This is allegedly a fictional play but it is in fact based on Operation Countryman, the inquiry into corruption at Scotland Yard. Newman is known for the excellent contacts he has within the police force and, I understand, the information for *Operation Bad Apple* came from a well-placed detective sergeant who had himself been a suspect in the Countryman inquiry. He approached Newman after his success with the *Law and Order* series.

In the play, corruption goes as far up in the Yard as Assistant Commissioner
Newman says that, according to his source, this is how high up in the Yard corruption went at the time of Countryman. Policemen from a rival force (Wiltshire in Bad Apple replaces Dorset in Countryman) are called in. The investigations run into the sand, however, when the Director of Public Prosecutions thinks, such is the extent of corruption in the Yard, that a full public exposure would be against the public interest — and a Scotland Yard man is brought in to wind down the inquiry: — the Assistant Commissioner "Crime".

Insofar as Newman's play is not so much fiction as loosely-disguised fact, the Court might just have some libel problems on its hands. This won't be helped by the fact that in March, while the play is still running, three officers prosecuted as a result of the Countryman inquiry go on trial at the Old Bailey.

Poe's prescience

Edgar Allan Poe day today, the master being born on January 19, 1809. Were he alive now he would not be enjoying the weather insofar as it would have stopped racing and the opportunity for wagers. I always liked the story of Poe writing *Berenice*, a tale of a lover robbing his dead girl-friend's body of her teeth to win a wager that necrophilia and dentistry could be put together in a serious story.

Poe was also responsible for the most extraordinary coincidence I know. In the 1830s he wrote *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* in which a ship capsizes, four people survive but have to eat one of their number — a boy called Richard Parker. In the 1880s a yawl, the Mignonette, set sail from Plymouth but later was shipwrecked in the Atlantic. There were four survivors who chose to eat one of their number — a boy called Richard Parker. Perfect Poe.

Blue Heaven

Latest fad in Washington: the "Depression Soirée". This is a favourite, apparently, of the Democratic Party. Guests are instructed to dress as "Okies", which means the women wear cotton frocks in "Grapes of Wrath Tatters" and the men search their wardrobes for collarless shirts and leave off shaving for a day or two. Food is served from cardboard suitcases and bean dishes made of tin. The food itself of course is still flown in from Zabar's, the fashionable deli on New York's West Side.

String band

The advent of the slip-on shoe was an important civilizing influence for many people who, like me, are blessed with more thumbs than fingers and cannot tie knots. (I was heartily glad to see the back of laces.) But I now gather that knots, and the pleasure to be had from tying them, is making a come-back, so much so that a British Association of Knot Tiers is in the offing.

Geoffrey Budworth, a former inspector with the Metropolitan Police, and Des Pawson, a retail manager from Ipswich, are inviting the knot *cognoscenti* to discuss possiblities on board the Maritime Trust vessel Discovery in St Katharine's Dock, East London, on April 17.

"There are people sitting all over the place with this aptitude for knots in their blood and a compulsion to get involved and not one of them is aware of where the others are", Mr Budworth told me yesterday.

To date the Knot-scholars invited include: a retired consultant physician, Dr Edward Hunter, who rediscovered a knot that has now come to be known, in Britain at least, as Hunter's Bend; a man on the Isle of Wight who ties knots inside bottles; and a grandfather from Blackheath who has invented 30 knots over the years.

Altogether, apparently, there are about 4,000 different kinds of knots which can be broken down into many different families and groups which are capable of an infinite number of variations. Although knot-tying has played an important part in mankind's history through the ages, nowadays it finds its most prictical applications in mountaineering, fishing and sailing.



Struck off

Yesterday was a sad day for medical journalism Dr Michael O'Donnell, editor of Britain's liveliest medical magazine, *World Medicine*, was summarily dismissed from his post.

The magazine, which used to be jointly owned by McGraw-Hill and IPC, has recently become the exclusive property of IPC, and as a result the staff were told that they would be moving down to Sutton, Surrey, to join the other publications of IPC Business Press.

Dr O'Donnell, who must be one of the best known doctors in the country because of his weekly anecdotes on Robert Robinson's *Stop the Week* programme was summoned to the headmaster's study yesterday. There he was confronted with his own Clareville Diary, which appears at the back of his magazine and in which he had said that, with the takeover, the old magazine was effectively dead. The new proprietors were not pleased and when Dr O'Donnell said he was not happy about the terms of his new contract, he was told he could pack his things and leave — that evening.

The good doctor, who has a considerable following among the medical profession, coming streets ahead of all other candidates in the last election for the General Medical Council, the profession's disciplinary body, had one afternoon in which to clear out the detritus of 15 years.

He took over as editor in 1966 only a year after the magazine started, and has stamped his personality firmly on it. He was particularly pained that as the link was being severed, there was no thanks for the success of the magazine, no mention of the profits it had made the company, and not even a goodbye.

He is vague about what he will do next but he does favour "transplanting the soul" of *World Medicine* elsewhere.

Peter Watson

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TIMES PAST THE TIMES

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MITTERRAND REBUFFED

President Mitterrand's government was rebuffed over the weekend by two different groups of people—the voters in four by-elections and the nine members of the Constitutional Council. Neither setback should be exaggerated, but taken together they represent the worst blow the Government has suffered since the Socialists swept all before them in the election last June. The by-election defeats were particularly galling. Three of the seats had been won by Socialists or their sympathizers in June, while the fourth had been won by a Gaullist with a small majority; the candidates of the left could reasonably have hoped to carry all four. But in the event they were all won comfortably by members of the right-wing opposition, and M Peyrefitte, the former Gaullist Minister of Justice, was returned in Provins with the biggest majority he had ever had.

By-elections are of course only by-elections, and these four seats, all of them in or near Paris, can hardly be regarded as representative of France as a whole. Before last year's election they had always been regarded as right-wing. But the results do show a falling away of support for the Government (in spite of opinion polls indicating that its most prominent members continue to be popular nationally), and specifically a defection of some of the voters who swung to the Socialists last year. One reason is that the economy has not noticeably picked up; unemployment and inflation remain uncomfortably high. Another is that some Communist voters who moved behind Socialist and other left-wing candidates last year seem to have abstained this time, possibly because of the acrimonious exchanges recently between Socialists and Communists over Poland.

The decision of the Constitutional Council is not going to make it any easier for the government to regain this lost ground. By striking down the provisions for compensation in the nationalization bill, the council has made the cost of the nationalization much higher. It has also, by requiring the government to submit a new bill to the National Assembly, committed it to a new period of parliamentary in-fighting, with the opposition likely to contest every point once again; and it has put off still further the day when the government can put its policies for the newly nationalized sector into practice. The government's hope had been that by now it would be over the hump of the nationalization process. It would have been able to end the period of uncertainty in which the candidates for nationalization have been languishing, and begin using them in an attempt to revitalize the economy. This will now have to wait.

It would have been much worse for the government if the Constitutional Council had ruled against the very principle of nationalization. This was what the opposition had hoped, and it is possible that some of the members of the council, all of them appointed before last year's Socialist victories, were tempted to do so. But it would have been an overtly political act, with unpredictable repercussions. As it is, the council's ruling is compatible with its standing as a judicial institution, and has been accepted as such by the government. The council after all made rulings in favour of the Socialists when they were in the opposition.

For the time being, the government can easily ride out these setbacks. And it can quite legitimately claim more time before it is judged on the results of its economic policies. It is trying to effect radical changes in the French economy, and these cannot be effective overnight, particularly at a time of recession. The by-election results are a warning of what awaits it if in the longer term its policies do not have the results that it hopes for. It would be exposed to desertion by interest groups which switched to the Socialists in the hope that they would be more successful in reviving the economy than M Giscard d'Estaing; and to attack from the Communists, who joined the government largely for opportunistic reasons.

AN ANTI-SOCIAL TAX

When, in the eighteenth century, the government first introduced stamp duty on the transfer of property, house and land ownership was the prerogative of the few. It was, unashamedly, a tax on the rich, and one which could easily be borne by those on whom it was imposed. As recently as 1974, when the price threshold above which stamp duty became payable was £15,000, only some 16 per cent of all house purchase transactions were liable, and most of them were, for the buyers, not their initial ventures into house buying. The threshold has since gone up to £20,000, but, with the steep rise in prices in the meantime, the proportion of transactions that is now liable to stamp duty has risen to well over a half. What was earlier intended to affect only the upper end of the market is on its way to becoming a tax from which only a small proportion is excluded. Average house prices are now nearing £25,000.

Stamp duty is a particularly important element of the costs of the first time buyer. Most upwardly mobile house owners have the cushion of a profit when they exchange one property for another. First time buyers do not.

They are often young, sometimes newly married, with limited savings, who have to find money for a deposit, for furniture and necessary appliances, for legal fees (often too high for the work done), for moving expenses, and now in an increasing number of cases stamp duty. It is difficult to assess exactly how many potential buyers are deterred from taking their first steps into ownership by the costs associated with it, or how many are put off moving from one house to another; but it is clear that there is some deterrence and that the level of stamp duty has a great deal to do with it.

The possibility that in the next budget the Chancellor will again raise the threshold above which duty is payable is therefore welcome. This government, like its Conservative predecessors, is committed to encouraging home ownership, and to the provision of low-cost housing schemes. Both are adversely affected by the present burden of stamp duty. The tax is also a considerable disincentive to the mobility of labour. The Prime Minister is anxious that people should show more initiative in seeking employment outside their immediate areas. The costs of moving to another part of the country are hardly calculated to stimulate job mobility.

Stamp duty is probably the cheapest form of tax to collect, and the easiest to administer. Its yield is not particularly high—some £285 million last year—but it is easy money. But the government ought not on that account to succumb to the temptation to continue gathering it at its present rate. The social disadvantages of keeping it where it is far outweigh the financial advantages.

TOWARDS A ONE-PARTY STATE

The honeymoon period in Zimbabwe appears to be over. Mr Robert Mugabe said shortly before Christmas that he may have to replace his policy of reconciliation with harsh punishment of his white opponents. He said some had rejected racial harmony and had been "acting in collusion with South Africa to harm our racial relations, to destroy our unity and to overthrow the popularity' elected government I lead". Ten whites are being held in detention, including Mr Wally Stuttaford, a Member of Parliament of the Republican Front (the former Rhodesian Front of Mr Ian Smith). Other signs of active opposition to Mr Mugabe (though there has been no evidence produced to connect these incidents with whites) came with a bomb that killed seven people at the headquarters of Mr Mugabe's party and an earlier explosion that destroyed a military arsenal at the Inkomo barracks.

On the other side the white disillusionment with a government they at first appeared to respect is shown by the accelerated exodus. The estimated figure for 1981 is 22,000. A breakdown of the official figures up to October makes depressing reading. They include 42 doctors, 212 engineers, 133 accountants, 241 teachers and 237 nurses.

It is hardly surprising that there should have been a degree of mutual disillusionment. On the one hand Mr Mugabe has never made any secret of the fact that he is a Marxist. Recent decrees drastically raising minimum wages, freezing some basic commodity prices and upper-bracket salaries and banning dismissals without ministerial permission have made life difficult for white entrepreneurs and small businessmen. Plans just announced to introduce black worker-control in some big industries will also increase unease.

On the other hand it has to be remembered that the previous Smith regime was racially based and fought a cruel war to prevent the majority of people in Zimbabwe exercising their rights. Mr Smith once promised that there would never be one-man-one-vote in his lifetime. It would be too much to hope that racialism had died overnight. The continued existence of a white supremacist regime just across the border and the arrogant South African raids into neighbouring territories must seriously hinder the cause of racial reconciliation.

Mr Mugabe himself, though mostly restrained and non-racialist in his oratory, is uncompromising in his hopes of persuading the people of Zimbabwe that a one-party state would serve their interests best. He is now to hold talks with Mr Joshua Nkomo as a first step towards this. Party divisions on ethnic lines are plainly unhealthy. "There is no such thing as Ndebele or Shona: we are all Zimbabweans," said Mr Mugabe, stating the ideal not the fact. But a one-party state is a dangerous thing. It is not impossible for it to accommodate dissent and the possibility of elected change, but the tendency is the other way. And on the face of it, a one-party state would have no place for the white representatives and the Republican Front.

Lord Carrington is to visit Zimbabwe next month. He will no doubt convey the close and concerned interest with which the British people are following Zimbabwean developments. This year has been dubbed by the Zimbabwean Government as the Year of National Transformation. For better or worse?

Transport subsidies

From Miss Lynne Reid Banks

Sir, I cannot understand why the Government does not act on this London fares business. It was a Labour government which, most uncharacteristically, brought in this absurd law putting an obligation on London Transport to run like any ordinary business, trying not to lose money. Let the Tories do something good, and popular, for a change, and repeal it quickly, before the immensely costly and counter-productive process of reversing the cheap-fares policy goes into effect.

There is not a major city in the West whose public transport system is not heavily subsidised to keep fares down. Why should not we, too, realise that it is in the interests of all Londoners, whether we travel by public transport or not, to keep the city thriving? If fares are raised every business and place of entertainment in London will suffer, not just the travellers. For my part, though I go into London seldom, I am perfectly willing to have my rates raised to subsidize cheap fares because I want to live in a prosperous, thriving city.

Yours faithfully,
LYNNE REID BANKS,
16 Rosemont Road,
Acton, W3.
January 13.

Use of acupuncture

From Professor P. D. Wall

Sir, Your article on acupuncture in childbirth (December 31) does a disservice to mothers-to-be and to all those in pain because it raises false hopes. I am associated with three hospitals which regularly prescribe acupuncture and the author of a theory of pain mechanisms used by Chinese as an explanation for acupuncture. Acupuncture is excellent when it works, but there is the rub. It has a very low rate of success, as I have seen in China. The practical problems of changing therapy in mid-labour, when one fails, are unpleasant particularly for the mother whose high hopes are dashed and who feels a failure.

Acupuncture has been well known in Europe since the sixteenth century, when three detailed textbooks appeared. The medical profession is neither so stupid nor so reactionary nor so powerful as to be able to suppress a therapy which works. General anaesthesia and local anaesthesia were introduced extremely rapidly after their discovery in spite of the fact that their mechanism of action was a complete mystery. The reason was that these therapies had a reliably high rate of success unlike the previous methods such as hypnosis which, like acupuncture, has a low rate.

Yours sincerely,
P. D. WALL,
Department of Anatomy and Embryology,
University College London,
Gower Street, WC1
January 4.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Troublesome disunity in the Alliance

From the Chairman of the Liberal Party

Sir, In today's *Times* (January 16) you report Dr Owen's view that the Alliance need be no more than a one-election arrangement to secure proportional representation in the next Parliament. Meanwhile Mr Jenkins at Hillhead has renewed his call for a long-term "partnership of principle" to work for national renewal. The contrast between the two is as bewildering to the electorate as it is to many members of the two parties.

Before the formation of the Alliance the Liberal Party had made commitment to proportional representation the prerequisite to our participation in any future government. For years we have seen electoral reform as the key to dissolving Britain's adversarial political system. But those who seek to break the mould of the system are surely obliged to offer more than a new style of politics in its place. If the country votes for a programme of reform a powerful and united movement will be required to put those reforms into effect.

For example, no one can imagine that major constitutional changes involving a great devolution of powers, or the creation of a new spirit of partnership in industry, or effective measures to cope with the problems of long-term unemployment and industrial decline will all be completed within a year or so. Such changes will require sustained and courageous support, and an immense amount of firm but patient consultation with those involved. Otherwise we shall make the old mistake of inflicting doctrinaire legislation on an uncomprehending nation.

I have not the least doubt that the Alliance under an agreed leader, and without any contingency plans for eventual break-up, is far more likely to win and hold support than an arrangement aimed at one election only with no certainty as to leadership or concerted strategy afterwards.

To put such a limited proposition to the electorate would lend credibility to accusations that the Alliance was based on convenience rather than principle and that the main purpose of the SDP was not national renewal but the resuscitation of the "old" Labour Party. Against that background the campaign for electoral reform might itself be damaged by revulsion from the prospect of eternal moderate socialist government!

This lesser view is not the vision which inspired Liberal Social Democratic workers on the streets of Warrington, Croydon or Crosby. Nor is it the vision which won Crosby and Croydon, and will win Hillhead, for the Alliance. The "old mould" which the rank and file of both parties are determined to see broken is not confined to the House of Commons, but is to be found in the uncooperative, self-protective and unaspiring attitudes which have become the curse of our national thinking. It will be tragic if this larger aim is lost.

Fortunately the Hillhead by-election will give Mr Jenkins the perfect opportunity to re-state the message of his historic Dimbleby Lecture and proclaim the Alliance as a great and open movement for the benefit of Britain as a whole.

In his recent *Times* article (January 12) Mr Taverne warned that in due course the realistic alternatives for the Alliance are unity or death. I believe he is right. Unity cannot be achieved at once, especially as so many issues of policy have still to be discussed, let alone settled. But eventual unity must not be ruled out at least until the general memberships of both parties have had the opportunity to accept it or reject it. Meanwhile neither party should take steps which would make eventual unity more difficult.

If Dr Owen's scenario were adopted we should be expecting members of both parties to devote the next couple of years to getting candidates elected whom thereafter half of those concerned would be working to depose. That cannot be the basis of a whole-hearted campaign.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PINCHAM
Liberal Party Organisation,
1 Whitehall Place, SW1.
January 16.

Efficiency of British Telecom

From the Chairman of British Telecom

Sir, I would like to comment on the spirit of your leading article "Public inefficiency" (January 15) and on some of the facts quoted.

The "public admission" you cited in fact referred to my recent message to all our staff. This was designed to show that although (contrary to your assertion) we had achieved some manpower productivity improvement in the year 1980-81, much more still needs to be done.

My message was an honest and realistic statement of our performance and prospects, with the emphasis on our management objective of seeking a 25 per cent improvement in our operating efficiency over the next three years.

This is a stretching target, and I think it somewhat rough justice to find the words I used as a spur to further improvement being used by you in evidence against me!

Perhaps I might set this task in context. Over the last 10 years we have doubled our system size with a minimal increase in staff numbers; during that period, our charges have increased much less than the general RPI (retail price index) movement; we have introduced much new technology into our services for the benefit of our customers; and over the last 12 months, in particular, service has greatly improved.

It was against these measures of our progress that I set the very real additional challenge of competition and stressed the importance of everyone, at all levels of our organisation, working together to do even better in the future

For the record, the target reduction in our real unit costs is set by Government to be achieved over a five-year period, and not in a single year. Our performance against this target in the single year 1980-81 was affected by a number of factors, including the general economic recession; but our overall performance in the three years since our target was set has been a *reduction* in unit costs of some 9 per cent.

That is less than our 5 per cent target — hence my message to staff — but still a significant achievement.

We aim to do better in future.

Yours sincerely,
G. R. JEFFERSON,
British Telecommunications,
2-12 Gresham Street, EC2.
January 18.

From Mr G B Napier

Sir, There is no difficulty in finding examples to support your leading article of today (January 15).

We are a company developing this estate for private housing. We often act as contractors for British Telecom to lay their ducts and telephone cables in our footpaths. To their instructions we installed a small plastic chamber, called a JP23, for which we will be paid £8.50 for our work.

Then British Telecom decided they wanted something larger, a small brick chamber 30ins x 18ins by 18ins deep. To knock out the first and build the second might take a man five or six hours and be worth £30.

British Telecom did the work themselves. On January 13 a large van arrived at 11 o'clock fitted with crane, compressor, every kind of tool and supply, and with two very nice chaps. Work began at 12 o'clock and ended at 3. The van returned on the 14th at 10 o'clock and left at 3.15, the work done.

The true cost of the labour and the van with its equipment, travelling 50 miles each day, would be about £250. Our relations with British Telecom are excellent, and all concerned would think this perfectly normal.

How do we break out?

Yours faithfully,
G. B. NAPIER,
Director,
Pinetrees Estate,
Knowle Drive,
Copthorne,
Crawley,
West Sussex.

Auction premium

From the Chairman of Sotheby Parke Bernet and Company

Sir, I refer to Saturday's leader "Fair dealing in fine art" (January 16). The art market is a competitive business with buyers, sellers, dealers and auctioneers: a buyer seeks to buy, a seller to sell. The dealers and auctioneers provide alternative mechanisms for them to do so if they do not wish or are unable to satisfy their requirements directly.

If the terms of trade of any individual dealer or auctioneer are out of line, the normal market pressures will ensure that this is rectified. We still live in a free society and the art market is an excellent example of a system where individuals can exercise their freedom of choice in an international marketplace which offers a considerable variety from which to choose.

The argument for the abolition of the buyer's premium in the United Kingdom is extremely dangerous so long as it exists elsewhere. From our experience of losing business in New York when our main competitors charged a premium (and could therefore be very competitive towards vendors) and we did not, we believe that the immediate effect would be for the United Kingdom to lose a great deal of business to overseas auction houses to the detriment of London as the centre of the art market.

You state that the premium is "essentially a shoddy means of making the vendor believe that the auctioneer is taking a smaller cut on the sale of his goods than is in fact the case." How can this possibly be so when all vendors at Sotheby's are fully aware that we charge a buyer's premium as is clearly set out in our conditions of sale?

We also find it difficult to understand how the premium can act to the disadvantage of the buyer when he can discount it in his bidding, even though he may rarely do so in the competitive atmosphere of the saleroom.

It is, of course, the success of the premium system that is the origin of the trade war between the auctioneers and many dealers, who thus find it more difficult to buy advantageously against the competitive terms which the auctioneers can offer. This is surely to the benefit of the consumer and the objective which any believer in private enterprise should wish to encourage. The fact that some dealers may be the victims of the intense competition which has long existed amongst the auctioneers themselves is a fact of life, but it can hardly be considered to be against the public interest. There are also numerous dealers who successfully compete with the auctioneers through their own skill, energy and efficiency.

I profoundly hope that, with the formation of the new joint committee of the trade and the auctioneers, the destructive exchanges of recent years will come to an end and that these commercial issues will be judged for what they are.

Yours faithfully,
WESTMORLAND,
Sotheby Parke Bernet and Co,
34-35 New Bond Street, W1
January 18.

Ulster teacher training

From the Very Reverend Canon Patrick J. Walsh

Sir, Your issue of January 13 carried an account of a press conference held in Belfast to announce a public campaign by the Roman Catholic community against the intended implementation, by Mr Nicholas Scott, MP, the Northern Ireland Under Secretary of State with responsibility for Education, of the two main recommendations of the interim report of the Chilver review body on "The Future Structure of Teacher Education in Northern Ireland".

The first recommendation is that the two Catholic colleges of education, St Mary's for women and St Joseph's for men, should be closed and be replaced by a Catholic "element" which would have "a separate legal and administrative existence" in a Belfast Centre for Teacher Education on the site of the existing non-denominational state college at Stranmillis. The second recommendation is that only about half the teachers required for the Catholic schools should have Catholic training of any kind. The Catholic schools constitute almost a 50 per cent partner in the total educational system of Northern Ireland.

If these recommendations are implemented then a situation will have been imposed on the Catholic community in Northern Ireland in regard to teacher training quite out of line with the situation in the rest of the United Kingdom. In England there remain six autonomous Catholic colleges of education each on its own site and the student intake to these colleges is based on an "historic share" which represents the proportion of teachers required for Catholic schools.

In addition there are two federations, at Liverpool and Roehampton, involving Catholic colleges but in each of these cases the Catholic college has retained its own site; the other institutions in the federations are voluntary institutions and there is a withdrawal clause. In Scotland the recent reorganization of teacher education left a split-site Catholic college, St Andrew's, operating in both Edinburgh and Glasgow, and that college has been granted an almost exclusive right to train Catholic teachers in Scotland.

While Northern Ireland remains under direct rule the very sizable Catholic community demands that in the provision of training for teachers its religious rights must be respected by HM Government as those of Catholics in Great Britain have been respected.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK J. WALSH,
Chairman of the Council of Priests for the Diocese of Down and Connor,
St Malachy's College,
Belfast.
January 14.

Poland and the USSR

From Professor Robin Kemball

Sir, The situation in Poland is still too confused for anyone to be able to gauge the likely outcome of present events, while considerable mystery still enshrouds the position, motives, and true intentions of General Jaruzelski and others. At the same time, it must be clear to all but the wilfully blind that what is being perpetrated in that unhappy country is being done against and despite the wishes and consensus of 95 per cent of the population — workers, peasants, students, intellectuals, clergy, and doubtless an important section of the armed forces.

If the mere fact that such a thing is possible is *not* the result of Soviet threats, machinations, and connivance, however cynically disguised, could the government spokesman in Bonn (or perhaps others) provide us with an alternative explanation? And if the Soviets are so anxious to prove to the world the purity of their intentions, might they not begin by at last honouring that part of the Yalta agreement which guaranteed the holding of free elections in Poland, which is exactly what Solidarność — and the Polish nation behind it — was demanding?

I have the honour to be, Sir, your faithful, obedient servant,
ROBIN KEMBALL,
Université de Lausanne,
Faculté des Lettres,
Section de Langues Slaves,
Rue Cité-Devant 2,
Lausanne.
January 1.

From Dr A. J. Ryder.

Sir, while agreeing with many of the points made by Brian Crozier (January 12) may I suggest that we must be careful not to draw wrong conclusions. Whether General Jaruzelski will ultimately be seen as a patriot or a betrayer it is too early to say.

What seems to me important at this stage is to ensure that Western reprisals, whatever form they take, be applied to the Soviet Union alone. It is is impossible to ensure that, if applied to Poland as well, they will not inflict further hardship on the Polish people. They would also be used by the Jaruzelski government to rally support for the thoroughly discredited Polish Communist Party.

Yours truly,
A. J. RYDER,
74 Clifton Hill, NW8.
January 13.

Straight talk

From Mr H. F. Ellis

Sir, The plea for "honest English" made (January 12) by my comparatively youthful one-time colleague Mr B. A. Young is in principle compelling, but his examples of it could perhaps have been more happily chosen. When he reaches my age and (as some would say) condition, he just might prefer to be described as a physically and mentally handicapped old gentleman rather than as a crippled old madman. We shall see.

In the meantime he might lead the way to honest English by abandoning his customary and totally dishonest subscription, "I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant", in favour of something like

Yours (which isn't true either)
faithfully,
H. F. ELLIS,
Hill Croft,
Kingston St Mary,
Taunton.
January 15.

British arts abroad

From the Director-General of the British Council

Sir, I am evidently a partisan for the British Council and was of course delighted to read Mr Gotch's letter (January 14) about the excellent work done by the British Council in China.

But not only in China: Henry Moore in Madrid and Lisbon, Gainsborough in Paris, Scottish Opera in Austria, Cambridge Arts Theatre in India, Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields in Brazil, London Contemporary Dance Theatre in Warsaw are just a few examples of British Council involvement in showing British excellence abroad. Yet all our promotion in the arts is only about 4 per cent of our budget. How so? Because in our last financial year we also brought to Britain 28,700 people as students and on exchange schemes from all over the world, taught 150,000 students English in 28 countries, ran 100 libraries in 60 countries, were deeply involved in technical cooperation in developing countries and engaged in other manifold activities — all to promote a more enduring appreciation of Britain abroad.

We are well known in the 80 countries in which we have representatives. But how many people in Britain know and value our work?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BURGH,
The British Council,
10 Spring Gardens, SW1.
January 15.

Getting in touch

From Mr A. Sandman

Sir, The most amazing part of the Mark Thatcher saga is the lack of proper long-distance radio communication apparatus.

In 1982 the size and weight is so small that it should be a rule that, to take part in rallies, this apparatus is carried.

Yours faithfully,
A. SANDMAN,
57 Primrose Hill Court,
King Henry's Road, NW3.
January 15.

Rail dispute

From Mr W. S. Hayes

Sir, Sir Richard Dobson (January 15) has hit the nail squarely on the head.

The best way to resolve this wretched dispute, in which the community, as travellers, transmitters of goods/mail and taxpayers, are the principal sufferers, is for BR and Aslef to go to arbitration. Not the messy to-ings and fro-ings inseparable from Acas's convolutions, but the proper, formal procedure in which the decision of the umpire (if one be needed) is final. Moreover, the arbitrators'/umpire's findings would contain authoritative answers to Sir Richard's pertinent questions.

Yours truly,
W. S. HAYES,
Campbell Villa,
Forest Row,
East Sussex.
January 16.

From Lord Strathalmond

Sir, If, as reported in your issue of January 14, British Rail have 3,300 locomotives, why do Aslef have a membership of approximately 20,000?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
STRATHALMOND,
18 London Street, EC3.
January 14.

Proper names

From Mrs I. Willenz

Sir, For Continentals the task of addressing letters to someone in England is full of pitfalls.

My late husband, a scientist, received letters from abroad addressed to:

1. Mr Dr J. Willenz
2. Sir J. Willenz
3. His Honour Dr J. Willenz

and I myself was addressed as Mrs J. Willenz, Esq.

Yours faithfully,
I. WILLENZ,
40 Brisbane Grove,
Hartburn,
Stockton-on-Tees,
Cleveland.
January 12.



COURT AND SOCIAL



COURT CIRCULAR

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
January 18: Princess Alexandra, Patron of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, was present this evening at a Gala Performance given by Third Year Students in the MacOwan Theatre, London W.8.
Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the British Veterinary Association, 7 Mansfield Street, London, on February 9 to mark its centenary.

The Prince of Wales, as patron, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend a dinner in connexion with the British Film Institute at 11 Downing Street, London, on February 2.

The Prince of Wales will open a new gallery at the Crafts Council, 12 Waterloo Place, London, on February 2.

The Prince of Wales, as patron, will attend a reception to mark the end of the International Year of Disabled People at 32 Chesham Place, London, on February 9.

Princess Anne will attend a court dinner of the Farriers' Company at Innholders Hall, London, on February 3.

A memorial service for John Siddeley, Lord Kenilworth, will be held at St Stephen's Church, Gloucester Road, SW7, on Tuesday January 26, at 6.30 pm.

Mr Nigel Galliers-Pratt, second son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Galliers-Pratt and nephew of the late Sir Nigel Cayzer and of Sir James Cayzer, wishes in future to be known as Mr Nigel Cayzer.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. M. Steel and the Hon Sophia Maude
The engagement is announced between Timothy Michael, only son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Steel, of Rock House Farm, Lower Froyle, Alton, Hampshire, and Sophia, only daughter of Viscount and Viscountess Hawarden, of Wingham Court, Canterbury, Kent.

The Hon D. J. W. McGowan and Miss J. B. Papadimitriou
The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of the late Lord McGowan and the Dowager Lady McGowan, and Brigitta, eldest daughter of the late Mr C. Papadimitriou and Mrs N. Papadimitriou, of Athens.

Mr M. T. O. Stanley and Miss G. M. V. Grimm
The engagement is announced between Martin Thomas Oliver, elder son of the Hon Richard and Mrs Stanley, of Jennetts Hill House, Stanford Dingley, nr Reading, Berkshire, and Georgina Mary Victoria, only daughter of Mr and Mrs George Grimm, of 10 Radnor Walk, Chelsea, London, SW3.

Mr C. J. U. Applegate and Miss F. L. Charlesworth
The engagement is announced between Charles John Urquhart, only son of the late Mr and Mrs J. W. Applegate, of Hadstock, Essex, and Fiona Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. F. Charlesworth, of Dorking, Surrey, and Jiddah, Saudi Arabia.

Lieutenant J. A. Esling, RN, and Miss I. G. Crewdson
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Esling, of 53 Combe Street Lane, Yeovil, and Ingrid, younger daughter of Mr John Crewdson, of Winster House, Winster, Windermere, and Mrs G. D. Crewdson, of Sutherland House, Thoro'fare, Woodbridge.

Mr M. C. Gilbert and Miss G. M. Walsh
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Charles Gilbert, of Maidstone, Kent, and Gillian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Lawrence Walsh, of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Dr J. Hiley and Miss A. Barbour
The engagement is announced between John, second son of Mr H. Hiley, of Woodside Cottage, Ings, Kendal, and the late Mrs Hiley, and Alison, daughter of Professor and Mrs R. S. Barbour, of Fincastle, Pitlochry, and 74 Don Street, Old Aberdeen.

Mr K. E. Rippon and Miss D. A. Clements
The engagement is announced between Keith, son of Mr and Mrs J. Rippon, of Kirkham, Lancashire, and Dawn, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Clements, of Blackpool, Lancashire.

Mr L. J. Robertson and Miss K. M. Howard
The engagement is announced between Leslie John, younger son of Mr and Mrs S. M. Robertson, of 55 Queen Edith's Way, Cambridge, and Katharine Mary, eldest daughter of Canon and Mrs R. W. Howard, of Helsby Vicarage, Cheshire.

Marriages

Mr J. H. Acosta and Miss S. M. Wilson
The marriage took place in London, on January 8 between Jaime, son of Hernando and Mary Acosta, of Bogota, Colombia, and Sally, daughter of David and Jocelyn Wilson, of Sheffield.

Mr W. P. Kember and Miss L. M. Kirkham
The marriage took place at St Michael's Church, Highgate, on January 16, 1982, of Mr William Kember to Miss Lynn Kirkham.

Luncheon

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the college Lord Shawcross, QC, Mr Dennis Weatherstone and Mr A. Graham Apley.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Roy Watts, deputy chairman and chief executive of British Airways, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr Harold Tull presided.

Receptions

PRIME MINISTER
The Prime Minister was host last night at a reception at 10 Downing Street in honour of the Foreign Press Association.

HM Government
The Hon George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, was host at a reception held last night at Dover House for Scottish parliamentary political correspondents.

Latest appointments

Mr David Hirst, QC, has been appointed a High Court judge in succession to Lord Justice May, who was recently appointed to the Court of Appeal. The Lord Chancellor will assign Mr Hirst to the Queen's Bench Division.

Peter Trievnor

Milne celebration: Schoolchildren from St James Independent School for Girls, Queen's Gate, Kensington, London, saluting the centenary of the birth of A. A. Milne at a statue of the author's famous creation, Winnie-the-Pooh, in London Zoo, Regent's Park, yesterday. The ficticious bear was based on a black bear called Winnie which was a favourite with children at London Zoo for many years after arriving from America as a regimental mascot in 1914.

Westminster School

Lent Term begins today. There are 738 members of the school, 588 in the great school and 150 in the under school. G. G. Weston (Liddell's) is captain of the school and A. J. Bird (QS) is praefectus. Mr C. Y. Harben has succeeded Mr E. R. D. French as Housemaster of Rigaud's. The exeat is from February 19 to February 23. The Tizard Lecture will be given by Professor E. C. Zeeman on March 2. Confirmation by Bishop Launcelot Fleming is in Westminster Abbey on March 10. The school concert is in St Margaret's on March 26 and term ends the next day.

Wildlife tour for Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh is to tour 10 countries soon as president of the World Wildlife Fund, Buckingham Palace announced yesterday. He will leave Britain on February 18 and spend three weeks in Austria, Egypt, India, Italy, Oman, Pakistan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Tunisia.

Bishop's marathon

The Bishop of Hereford, the Right Rev John Eastaugh, aged 61, is planning a 200-mile walk in May.

It will be part of a two-week pilgrimage throughout his 1,660-square mile diocese in commemoration of its 700th anniversary of the death of Thomas of Hereford, whose shrine is in Hereford Cathedral.

Birthdays today



Senor Javier Perez de Cuellar, the new Secretary-General of the United Nations, who is 62.

The Right Rev S. F. Allison, 75; Major-General Raymond Briggs, 87; Mr Michael Crawford, 40; Mr Bernard Dunstan, 62; Lord Glentoran, 70; Sir Alex Jarratt, 58; Mr Richard Lester, 50; Colonel Terence Maxwell, 77; Mr Nigel Nicolson, 65; Sir Joseph Patron, 86, Sir Victor Raikes, 81; Mr Simon Rattle, 27; the Earl of Wemyss and March, 70.

University news

London

CONFERMENTS

The title of Professor of Community Medicine on Dr C. Du Ve Florey, BA, MB BCh, MD, of St Thomas's Hospital Medical School.
The title of Professor of Experimental Haematology on Dr A. J. Grimes, PhD, MRC Path, of St Thomas's Hospital Medical School.
The title of Professor of Extraction Metallurgy on Dr J. H. E. Jeffes, BSc, MA, PhD DSc(Eng), of Imperial College.
The title of Professor of Vertebrate Palaeontology on Dr K. A. Kermack, PhD, DSc, of University College London.
The title of Professor of Systems Analysis on Mr F. F. Land, BSc(Econ) of the London School of Economics.
The title of Professor of Toxicology on Dr A. E. M. McLean, BM, BCh, PhD, MRC Path, of University College London.
The title of Professor of Papyrology on Dr H. G. T. Maehler, PhD, of University College London.
The title of Professor of Public Health and Water Technology on Dr R. Perry, BSc, PhD, of Imperial College.
The title of Professor of Navel Architecture on Mr L. J. Rydill, OBE, MRINA, C Eng, University College London.
The title of Professor of Ancient Philosophy, on Mr R. R. K. Sorabji, BPhil, MA, of King's College London.
The title of Professor of Linguistics on Dr N. V. Smith, MA, PhD, of University College London.
The title of Professor of Materials Science on Dr B. C. H. Steele, BSc, PhD, of Imperial College.
The title of Professor of Musical Theory and Analysis on Dr A. M. Whittall, ATCL, ARCO, MA, PhD, of King's College London.
The title of Professor of Neurobiology on Dr Semir Zeki, BSc, PhD, of University College London.

The title of Reader in Physics has been conferred on Dr M E Barnett, BA, PhD, of Imperial College: that of Reader in Paediatrics on Dr O G Brooke, MB, BS, MD, FRCP, of St George's Hospital Medical School: that of Reader in Social Administration on Dr I F Burton, BA, PhD, of Bedford College, that of Reader in Experimental Physics on Dr P E Clegg, BA, Phd, of Queen Mary College: that of Reader in Geography on Dr H D Clout, BA, MPhil, PhD, of University College London, that of Reader in Structural Engineering on Dr J G A Croll, BSc, PhD, MIStructE, CEng, of University College London: that of Reader in Medieval History on Dr Wendy E Davies, BA, PhD, of University College London: that of Reader in Social Administration on Dr D M Downes, BA, PhD, of the London School of Economics, that of Reader in Bacteriology on Dr Bohumil Sawdon Drasar, PhD, DSc, MRCPath, of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; that of Reader in Experimental Physics on Dr J A Edgington, BA, PhD, of Queem Mary College: that of Reader in Economics on Dr D M Gale, BSc, MA, PhD, of the London School of Economics, that of Reader in Chemical Engineering on Dr J Garside, BSc(Eng), PhD, MIChE, CEng, of University College London: that of Reader in Physics on Dr D C Imrie, BSc, PhD, FInstP, of University College London: that of Reader in Veterinary Parasitology on Dr D E Jacobs, BVMS, PhD, MRCVS, of the Royal Veterinary College: that of Reader in Histopathology on Dr P D Lewis, BSc, MB, BS, MD, MRCP, MRCPath, of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School: that of Reader in the Mathematics of Computation on Dr G Loizou, BA, PhD, of Birkbeck College: that of Reader in Applied Mathematics on Dr M A H MacCallum, MA, PhD, of Queen Mary College: that of Reader in Enzymology on Dr A D B Malcolm, BA, DPhil, of St Mary's Hospital Medical School: that of Reader in Periodontology on Dr H N Newman, BDentSci, MA, PhD, MDS, ScD, of the Institute of Dental Surgery: that of Reader in Obstetrics and Gynaecology on Mr D B Paintin, MB, ChB, FRCOG, of St Mary's Hospital Medical School: that of Reader in International History on Dr A B Polonsky, BA, DPhil, of the London School of Economics: that of Reader in English on Mr G R Proudfoot, BA, BLitt, of King's College, London: that of Reader in Chemical Engineering on Dr D L Pyle, BSc(Tech), PhD, of Imperial College: that of Reader in Law on Dr S A Roberts, LLB, PhD, of the London School of Economics: that of Reader in Biophysics on Dr K H Ruddock, BSc, PhD, DIC, of Imperial College: that of Reader in Physics on Dr D J Southwood, BA, PhD, of Imperial College: that of Reader in Pharmacology on Dr P J Thomas, MB, ChB, MD, of Chelsea College: that of Reader in Political Economy on Mr D T Ulph, MA, BLitt, of University College London, that of Reader in Medical Microbiology on Dr D J M Wright, MB, BS, MD, of Charing Cross Hospital Medical School.

Appointment
Dr P. E. Rock, BSc(Soc), DPhil, formerly Reader of Sociology at the London School of Economics, to the Readership in Social Institutions at the school.

Newcastle
Appointments
M. C. Stant to be head of the department of social studies from January 1, 1982, to September 30, 1987.
Professor W. R. Dearman to be head of the department of geotechnical engineering from January 1, 1982, to September 30, 1986.
Lectureship: Miss R Warren (agricultural marketing) from January 1

Leeds
The Duchess of Kent, Chancellor of the University of Leeds, will confer honorary degrees upon the following on May 20:
LLD: Herr Willy Brandt, Sir Derek Ezra, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, and Sir Rudolph Lyons, QC.
LittD: Professor Emmanuel Le Roy-Ladurie, Professor of Social Sciences, Paris University.
DMus: Jacqueline du Pre.
DSc: Dr Denis Parsons Burkitt, FRS, Medical scientist, and Sir Henry Chilver, Vice-Chancellor, Cranfield Institute of Technology.

Belfast
Promotions
The following lecturers have been promoted senior lecturers from October, 1 1982:
Dr M Avery (archaeology), Dr R J Crawford (mechanical and industrial engineering), Mrs J Eve (commercial and property law), Dr A Ferguson (zoology), Mr K A Goddard (French), Dr G B Greer (psychology), Dr B K Hinds (mechanical and industrial engineering), Mr I G Meighan (Geology), Mr E P Moxon-Browne (political science), Mr P E Phillips (jurisprudence), Mr A T Thomson (music), Mr G B Wisdom (biochemistry), Dr D B Harper (agricultural and food chemistry), and Dr R M McCracken (veterinary science)

Dinners

Gardeners' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their escorts, were present at a ladies' dinner of the Gardeners' Company held last night at the Mansion House. The Master, Mr R L Payton, accompanied by Mrs Payton, presided, assisted by his Wardens, Mr J G Keeling and Rear-Admiral M J Ross, with their ladies. Others present included: the Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury, Sir Andrew Carnwath, the President of the Law Society and Mrs Marshall, the Resident Governor of H M Tower of London and Mrs Mills, the Master of the Musicians' Company, the Master of the Fruiterers' Company and Mrs Elloart, the Deacon of the Incorporation of Gardeners of Glasgow and Mrs Rowan, the Headmaster of the City of London Freemen's School and Mrs Kemp and the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society and Mrs Cowell.

Royal Society for Asian Affairs
Lord Greenhill of Harrow, President of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Neil Marten, Minister for Overseas Development, Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan and Sir Arthur de la Mare also spoke.

New Oriel Provost appointed

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Sir Zelman Cowen, Governor-General of Australia for the past four years, has been appointed Provost of Oriel College, Oxford, in succession to Lord Swann, who resigned last July after only one year in the post.

Sir Zelman, aged 62, was a fellow and tutor at Oriel from 1947 to 1950, having earlier studied as a Rhodes Scholar at New College, Oxford. He retires as Governor-General of Australia in July, and will take up his post at Oriel from a date to be announced.

Under the Oriel College statutes the appointment of a provost falls to the Lord Chancellor if the college's fellows are unable to agree on a candidate within 90 days of the retirement or resignation of the previous provost.

Lord Swann's unexpected resignation at the end of the summer term left little time to coordinate the choice of his successor. An arrangement was made by the college with Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, that he would appoint whoever the fellows chose, despite their decision coming after the statutory 90-day period.

Oriel decided unanimously last November to appoint Sir Zelman, but the announcement by the Lord Chancellor's office had to be delayed until after his resignation as Governor-General and an announcement of his successor.

After being called to the Bar in England in 1947 and then spending three years teaching at Oxford, Sir Zelman returned to Australia to be Professor of Public Law at Melbourne University.

In 1967 he became Vice-chancellor of the University of New England in New South Wales, moving three years later to Queensland University as Vice-chancellor for seven years until his appointment as Governor-General in 1977.

Sir Zelman has held many professorships, mostly in the United States, and has served on many committees and other bodies, including the Victorian State advisory committee on Australian Broadcasting, the Chief Justice's Law Reform Committee, the adult Education Association of Australia, and the Australian Institute of Urban Studies.

He was knighted in 1976 and is married with four children. He lists his recreations in *Who's Who* as swimming, music and the theatre.



Sir Zelman Cowen: Unanimous choice for Oriel

WALES IN BRIDGE LEAD

By a Bridge Correspondent

Wales leads the league table after the first weekend of the Home Countries International Bridge Series for the Camrose Cup. The Welsh team, faced with travel difficulties, managed to get to Belfast via Cardiff, Bristol and Exeter, and produced its best form to beat Northern Ireland by 22-14, with individual matches of 9-3, 3-9, and 10-2.

England, the holder, opened its defence with a disappointing display against Scotland, drawing 18-18 at Aberdeen. The team won the first and third matches 9-3 but lost the second 0-12.

League table: Wales 22, Scotland 18, England 18, Northern Ireland 14.

Teams: Wales: M N Hirst, D K McAndrew, A J Pierce, W A Casey, P D Jourdain, G E Needham. Non-playing captain, G C Smith. Scotland: G Haase, G Cuthbertson, B Short, A H Duncan, W Mitchell, R Bennett. Non-playing captain, C D Bowman. England: R A Priday, C Rodrigue, M Pomfrey, D F Huggett, B Senior, S J Ray. Non-playing captain, J T Reese. Northern Ireland: M Rosenberg, R Anderson, Dr H Campbell, Dr S Hall, B McDowell, T Bennett. Non-playing captain, D Deery.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Nature Notes
by Peewit

There was a streak of pink in the sky this morning, but it soon faded and we settled down for another day of grey clouds scudding in over the Welsh foothills. When I went for a walk down the lane after breakfast there was little sign of activity, save the grey sheep scudding in over Mr Williams field. It is not until you see sheep against snow that you realize they are, in fact grey. There is an idea for a television commercial there: two farmers, one saying "How do you get your sheep so incredibly white when mine are so grey?" but stop! I have come to live here to get away from all that.

It is always a wonderful moment when the little white heads of the snowdrops poke up through the dead matted leaves, and I look forward to it immensely. As it is, all we have is dead matted leaves, dead bracken and dead sticks. On the snow I saw tracks of rabbits, hares, crows and a fox. I did not see any animals as such. All I ever see is tracks. I hope my luck changes soon. There were also tracks of an animal I did not recognize, large, with bear-like claws.

A curlew flew low overhead, uttering piteous cries. I know how he feels. "You don't have to stay here!" I cried back. "Go to London, where you've got it made! Better still, go to Bristol like the fox did and establish yourself in an urban environment till the BBC Bristol Nature Unit is falling over itself to film you. And when they make *The Urban Curlew*, send for me to do the commentary!"

I must stop thinking like this.

Later. I went for a walk before lunch with Buckminster Fuller, my dog. I threw a stick for him and he sped away across the sphagnum moss and reeds which add a welcome touch of grey-green to the grey-white landscape. He did not return. I followed his tracks across the snow till I came to a flurry of marks which I interpreted as meaning he had had a fierce fight with a large bird, probably a seagull, which had then flown away with him in its tallons. This is plainly ridiculous.

On the way back I spotted those bear-like tracks nearer the house and felt a frisson of fear, despite myself. Well, I have only myself to blame. Get back to nature, I said. Away from the rat-race and the Wardour Street warfare, back to the clean, simple life. All I have seen since I got here is dead vegitation, bloodstains on the snow and bones.

When I came into the cottage I found Bucky on the carpet dismembering a crow.

Later. I went for a walk at tea-time and found those strange tracks on my very own lawn. Well I call it a lawn. It is more like a football goalmouth after a heavy season. I do not think the Welsh foothills are capable of supporting a lawn. Is it merely association of words, I wonder, that makes me imagine the Welsh foothills smell of damp socks.?

Dwelling fearfully on those sinister tracks, I had another idea for a commercial. . . . "During the day, Dr Jekyll works hard as a general practitioner. So at night he likes to get out and have a good time. And when he gets in at dawn, there's nothing he likes better than a good hot mug of. . . ."

I am going mad.

Later. I watched a documentary on television called *The Urban Badger*. The badger leaves large, bear-like tracks, apparently. Suddenly I felt better. With Bucky curled up in front of the fire, a large Scotch in my hand and the latest copy of *Campaign* curled up on my lap, I think the rural life may not be so bad after all.

OBITUARY

SENOR RAMON SENDER

Distinguished Spanish novelist

Senor Ramón Sender, one of the most distinguished Spanish novelists of his generation, died on January 15 in California where he had been living for many years. He was 79.

Sender began his life as a writer with books in an unsparingly realist mode, describing the stark experiences of the Spanish campaigns in Morocco and the Spanish Civil War. His later work was more complex, symbolic and allusive. Many of his works he rewrote and reissued, striving for definitive versions. He was perhaps best known for a series of novels under the title *Cronica del Alba*, tr. *Chronicle of the Dawn*, the definitive version of which appeared in 1967.

Ramon José Sender was born on February 3, 1902, in Alcolea de Cinca, in Aragon, the son of a small farmer. He studied at the Institute of Saragossa and the University of Madrid, and in the early 1920s did his military service in Morocco. Returning to Spain in 1924 he became editor of the liberal magazine *El Sol*. He also continued the republican political actvities which had caused him so much trouble while at university. On one occasion he had been imprisoned, on another he had been sent home to his family for conspiracy against the monarchy.

During the regime of Primo de Rivera he was again imprisoned. Subsequently he left Spain and lived in Paris, Berlin and Moscow, returning however in 1933. During the Spanish Civil War he served the republican cause and reached the rank of brigade commander. Eventually he was forced to leave Spain in 1937. He lived in exile first in Mexico and then in the United States where he settled and was Professor of Spanish Literature at the University of New Mexico from 1947. He subsequently taught at the University of Southern California, until 1973.

An early work, *Imán*, was published in English under the titles *Earmarked for Hell* in Britain and *Pro Patria* in the United States. It appeared in 1934 and dealt in graphic terms with the Spanish experience in Morocco. A stark account of the revolt of Abd-el-Krim and the annihilation of several foreward Spanish garrisons by the Moors, it was told through the eyes of a Spanish private soldier.

Mr Witt en el Cantón (1935), perhaps still one of his most effective single novels, appeared in English as *Mr Witt Among the Rebels* in 1937. Its theme was the Murcian rebellion of 1873 against the central government. *Seven Red Sundays (1936)* was the story of a week long strike and an abortive uprising in Madrid.

The first of what was to become a series of novels, constantly reworked, appeared in English translation as *Chronicles of Dawn* in 1945. Its protagonist, Pepe Garcés was to reappear in nine novels which eventually became known under the general title of the first in the series. In the novels Sender explored the conflict between the individual's need to explore and fulfill his own personality and the necessity, as he sees it, of working for the survival of society.

Sender continued to write prolifically and was the recipient of Spain's principal literary prize, the Planeta Prize, in 1969. He was a visiting professor of numerous American universities and was an Hon DLitt of the universities of New Mexico and Southern California.

Lately he had retired to San Diego.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR THOMAS SHIRLEY

Air Vice-Marshal Sir Thomas Shirley KBE, CB, CEng, FRAeS, FIEE died on January 16 after a long and painful illness which he fought to the very end. He was 73.

Although he retired from the Royal Air Force in 1966, he devoted his life to the service that he loved and particularly to the recognition of the proper status of Engineers in a technology dependent force. In his later life he self deprecatingly declared that he was not really an Engineer but the truth is that for some 30 years Sir Thomas Shirley was an outstandingly successful Radio Engineering Manager.

He was born on June 4 1908, the son of Captain T Shirley who had been commissioned in the 60th Rifles. His secondary education began at Reading School, but like many other bright young men at the time, he was attracted by Lord Trenchard's new Royal Air Force Aircraft Apprenticeships, and from 1925 until 1928 he trained as a wireless fitter at what was arguably the toughest apprentice school, Flowerdown.

Throughout his long and successful career he remained very proud of the fact that he had been trained as a Apprentice. He was awarded a cadetship to Cranwell on leaving Flowerdown and was commissioned as a pilot in 1930. He served as a pilot with Army Co-operation Squadrons until 1936 when he became a Technical Specialist Officer in Signals Communications but still within the General Duties Branch. He was then in the Middle and Far East on signals duties until 1941 when he became OC Signals Wing a post he held until 1946. He held Signals Staff appointments until 1957 when he was made Air Officer Commanding and Commandant of the RAF Technical College at Henlow.

He was probably the most notable of the Commandants at Henlow. He took a personal interest in the Cadet Wing at the College believing that it was through having an organic graduate engineering course for Officer Cadets that the Engineering Branch in the Royal Air Force would have a cadre of excellently trained officers capable of fulfilling the essential need of the service for professional engineering officers.

It was whilst he was commandant that the college flourished and many of the ex-cadets have achieved high rank. After he relinquished his appointment he kept a careful record of the progress of most ex-Technical Cadets and particularly those who were trained in his time. For five years he was the president of the Minerva Society, the association of ex-cadets.

After leaving Henlow he was Senior Technical Staff Officer in Fighter Command, from 1960-1964 Deputy Controller of Electronics in the Ministry of Aviation, and he was the last Air Officer Commanding in Chief of Signals Command until his retirement in 1966. He was made CBE in 1946, CB in 1961, and advanced KBE in 1966. He was ADC to King George VI from 1950-1952 and to The Queen from 1952-1953. He attended Staff College in 1946, Joint Services Staff College in 1948 and the Imperial Defence College in 1956.

He is survived by Lady Shirley who shares his tremendous interest in ex-Technical Cadets, and his son and daughter.

LORD PARGITER

Lord Pargiter, CBE, who as Mr George Pargiter was Labour MP for the Spelthorne division of Middlesex from 1945 to 1950 and for Southall from 1950 to 1966, died on January 16. He was 84. He was created a life peer in 1966.

George Albert Pargiter was born on March 16, 1897, and was educated at Towcester Grammar School. He became an engineer, and held many offices in the Amalgamated Engineering Union. He served in the Army in the First World War, and was wounded at Gallipoli. In the Second World War he was Civil Defence Controller in Southall.

He had had a wide experience of local and municipal politics. He was a member of the Southall Borough Council from 1934 to 1945, and was Mayor of Southall from 1938 to 1940. He had also served on the Middlesex County Council since 1934, being made an alderman in 1946. He led the Labour group on the County Council for three years. In 1959-60 he was chairman of the council.

In 1954 he was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Middlesex. He was a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of London, later Greater London, from 1965 to 1976.

He married, in 1919, Dorothy Woods. They had two sons and one daughter.

MR R. J. HALSEY

Mr Reginald John Halsey, CMG, who died on January 13 at the age of 79, was Director of Research at the Post Office from 1958 to 1964.

He was born at Portsmouth in 1902, and was educated at the City and Guilds College on a Royal Scholarship. He took a First Class Honours Degree and Diplomas of both the City and Guilds and Imperial College.

He entered the Post Office Engineering Department in 1927, and until his appointment as Assistant Engineer-in-Chief in 1953, was engaged on work at the Post Office Research Station connected with line transmission. He was in charge of the work that led to the laying of the first-ever repeatered submarine cable, between Anglesey and the Isle of Man, in 1943. As Assistant Engineer-in-Chief he led the Post Office project team on the first Transatlantic Telephone Cable.

He became Director of Research in 1958, and was from 1959 to 1973 also a Director of Cable and Wireless Ltd.

He was appointed CMG in 1957.

He married, in 1930, Edna May Tonkin. They had one daughter.

هكذا من الأصل

Concerts

A touch of glory

London Sinfonietta Zagrosek

Round House

The London Sinfonietta have got themselves a marvellous programme for their touring concert, heard in London on Sunday, and to be caught this week in Manchester, York and Bristol. Two of Ligeti's liveliest works of instrumental filigree, *Melodien* and the chamber concerto, are paired with two of Messiaen's brilliant blazes of birdsong, *Couleurs de la cité céleste* and *Oiseaux exotiques*. The only trouble is that no single acoustic will do for both composers. In the Ligeti pieces one wants to hear every fidgety detail, every line in the tangle of differently coloured melodies, whereas the Messiaen works need to be bathed in awe-inspiring reverberation.

No doubt it was for reasons of incompatibilty that the Ligeti faired better than the Messiaen in the Round House which is certainly no gothic cathedral. *Melodien* with 16 soloists sounding much more effective than a larger orchestra, was shapely and clear under the direction of Lothar Zagrosek, clear enough for one to be able to focus at will on any of the component strands and find there melodies burgeoning from tiny seed cells of notes.

The chamber concerto, though scored for a similar ensemble and also dating from about a decade ago, is quite different. It is music of strangeness, and seemed so most especially in a performance that kept it taut, often ravishingly beautiful even when oddest, but never merely humorous. All the more spellbinding was the alien logic of the piece, its tendency to disappear into the upper treble only to burble up again from the bottom of the pitch range, its curious rhythmic constructions and its unpredictable moments of emergence into transluscent octave harmony.

Messiaen's sound picture of the celestial city was nothing like so weird and wonderful and it was a pity that the lack of an echoing ambience made it all the more obvious when the percussionists maddeningly failed to make their attacks in time with the rest of the orchestra or each other: the effect was disastrous in musical ideas that should strike like fork lightning. But there were other things that had the right rivetting glory, not least the woodwind flashing colour like birds of paradise and Paul Crossley giving the work a strong centre at the piano.

Mr Crossley was again superb at the end in the miniature concerto that is *Oiseaux exotiques*, and this time the lack of reverberation allowed one to concentrate on the sharply featured resonances coming from his playing. He also paid the music the compliment of investing every note, even in a fast trill, with care and thought, confronting us with a parade not of birds but of fascinating sound objects.

Paul Griffiths

LPO/Kuhn

Festival Hall

In town to conduct Don Giovanni at Covent Garden, Gustav Kuhn used a Sunday night to make his London concert debut with the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Opera-goers already know him as a discerning interpreter of Mozart, Wagner and Richard Strauss. Here he was ranging farther from home, into Russian territory with Tchaikovsky and (as an exile in France) Stravinsky, one of this year's centenarians.

His major visiting-card was Tchaikovsky's fourth symphony, but he began the concert with the two set-piece dances from *Eugene Onegin*, the waltz and polonaise. Already a flair for the music was suggested by the effervescent prickle of the waltz rhythm.

No dance music by first-rate composers is easy to interpret aright, but Kuhn, had the measure of Tchaikovsky's dances, the confidence, and the rapport with the LPO.

So it was too in Tchaikovsky's fourth, which is full of traps for a too confident conductor. Kuhn manfully survived the hurdles of tempo balance in the first movement, refusing to quicken or slow down unless the composer requests (often and after you long to do so, for the music's sake, but the results are disastrous, and Kuhn has evidently learned that lesson).

The woodwind trio section of the pizzicato Scherzo was given with outstanding spirit; the degree of nuance was exemplary, and the symphony throughout performed at a high level of unobtrusive virtuosity — witness the contrast between the sections of the second and fourth movements, serenity contrasted with vigour. Germanic symphonies proceed otherwise than the Russian variety, as Kuhn recognizes.

Kuhn gave us Tchaikovsky 4 as a great Russian symphony, but he also made it rather puritanical, inhibited, which the music itself suggests, though we may hope for more lift in the coda of the first movement, at the end of the scherzo, and now and then in the finale.

Stravinsky's violin concerto, in the middle, was given a bold and blameless performance by the orchestra's leader, David Nolan, a splendid fiddler, but not the pyrotechnician required for this captivating piece. He was punctiliously accompanied, in good spirit.

William Mann

Alfred Brendel

Festival Hall

The work that we number Hob, XVI No 51 Haydn called a sonata, although there is little of sonata form in either movement. Its evocations of chamber and orchestra writing, just sufficiently pointed on Sunday by Alfred Brendel, make the piano appear somewhat irrelevant while the pre-echos of Beethoven and Schubert perform a comparable service for the normal periodizations of musical history.

In Mozart's Sonata K 310, the passion is of a less overtly intellectual kind, although there are, heaven knows, enough unorthodox features in the first movements development section; and in the exposition. Mr Brendel makes the listener pay attention to such matters through a masterly understatement rather than by schoolmasterly over-emphasis.

The opening movement of Schubert's Sonata D.664 was shown to be above all an expression of melodious sensibility, its brief outburst of octaves smoothly incorporated by Mr Brendel into the pastoral discourse, the simplicity, indeed innocence, of the central Andante was perfectly caught, also. But the finale's underlying pastoral mood is seen through rather dark glass.

In Alban Berg's Sonata, Wagnerian passion is made explicit by the highly seasoned chromatic writing. This is a hot house growth, and perhaps the recitivist was astute to give a fairly cool account of its obsessive and prolonged climax. He was marvellous, of course, in the music's final dying away to nothing.

The extraordinarily powerful ebb and flow of the first movement of Schumann's Fantasy Opus 17 was accommodated to playing of great refinement.

Max Harrison

Virtuosity's failings

Eugene Sarbu

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Trailing clouds of glory from the Paganini and Carl Flesch competitions and from similar gladiatorial worldwide contests the young Romanian violinist Eugene Sarbu drew a moderate-sized Sunday afternoon audience to his South Bank recital.

Far from being passed over as a warming-up exercise, the Op 9 D major Sonata of Jean-Marie Leclair revealed, for better and for worse, the heart of that glory, delineating the distinctive qualities that make Mr Sarbu's such a freshly individual and memorable voice. For better, because its conventional manners, its sequential passages, its dance movements were reinvigorated by a mercurial unpredictable animal alertness that can transmit itself instantly and compellingly to the audience, or retreat shyly into the fast, tense vibrato of the fluttering, quivering undertones of a slow movement.

It was for the worse, although so far as musical nourishment was concerned, the programme did not advance far past its hors d'oeuvre. The two sharply contrasting sides to Mr Sarbu's performing character so imaginatively supported in Gordon Back's piano playing, the raucous savagery of the peasant fiddler and the lamenting shadow-play of his slower, quieter playing, were well suited to the Romanian folk character of George Enescu's third sonata. But, despite the fresh stimulus it initially gave to the Brahms D minor Op 108 sonata, it was a manner which failed to expand past its own interest and virtuosity into the service and illumination of the full melodic and dramatic matter of the work.

As Beethoven's "Kreutzer" sonata was removed from the advertised programme, the Brahms provided the only real opportunity for Mr Sarbu to convince us of any depth of musical insight or grasp of substantial argument. His last piece, Wienawski's "Fantasie brilliant on theme from Gounod's *Faust*", remained a highly accomplished, fearlessly executed showpiece, the ear arrested by Mr Sarbu's technical feats rather than charmed by either fantasy or brilliance.

Hilary Finch

Galleries

Appraising the art of the everyday

The Maker's Eye

Crafts Council Gallery

Art and Industry

The Boilerhouse, V & A

Makers '82

British Crafts Centre

Polly Hope

Warwick Arts Trust



Inspired by Australian Aboriginal paintings, Polly Hope's *Woolloomooloo*

A few months ago there was an exhibition at the Louvre des Antiquaires in Paris with the provocative title *When Furniture Became Sculpture*. This, they thought, happened around 1930, at about the time of the changeover from the chicly simplified frills of Deco proper to the slick streamlining of Moderne. But once you have recognized the possibility of such a process, you could move it back to the mid-nineteenth century and the birth of industrial design, or move it right forward to our own time, when everything conspires to blur any remaining distinctions between art and craft and the design of things intended for the least aesthetic uses.

Probably the most sensible moment to date the process of becoming would be in later-Victorian times, when the matter was tackled almost simultaneously from two different directions. On the one hand, the whole burgeoning business of industrial design began to put its house in order, lashed into awareness of its own deficiencies by the likes of Henry Cole, Owen Jones and Christopher Dresser. On the other, William Morris's socialistic objections to industry as such set off an (actually not so dissimilar) movement to reform design by turning away from mass-production and returning to the simple virtues of individual hand craftsmanship. But then even Morris could not, practically speaking, leave it at Adam delving and Eve spinning: Morris and Co. had to introduce, however warily, industrial processes in order to manufacture wallpapers, textiles and such in the required quantities. In the twentieth century leading figures of the Arts and Crafts Movement, like Gordon Russell, also quite happily turned their attention to unmistakably industrial design.

It is not for nothing that Sir Lawrence Weaver should have observed, in his introduction to the 1928 Yearbook of the Design and Industries Association:

"It is almost inevitable in a Society like the Design and Industries Association that different members of it shall support it for rather widely differing reasons, and shall look to it for deliverance from rather various plagues. Some will wish it to stimulate and support the handicrafts, regarding it as, in some sort, the repository of the William Morris tradition. Others will see it almost wholly as an agency for raising the standard of design in mass-produced and machine-begotten objects of common use. . ."

Precisely. And even today, though the Design Council and the Crafts Council are separate bodies, there is no way in which they can keep out of each other's patches.

In The Maker's Eye, for example, the splendid new exibition which which inaugurates the Crafts Council's new enlarged gallery at 12 Waterloo Place (until March 28), the accent is mainly on the other blurred frontier, between craft and art. But all the same, a number of the 14 leading craftsmen selecting exhibits choose pieces of industrial design: Enid Martx on Olivetti portamle typewriter case; David Kindersley examples of the new British Telecom logo in use; Emmanuel Cooper, even more spectacularly, a gleaming new Triumph motorcycle.

Which all goes to show what we ought to know anyway: that design is one and indivisible. It really does not matter, when you are moulding something in clay, whether you call it a sculpture or call it a jug, or whether a design grows under your hand as you make the thing yourself, or is drawn up with specifications so that a machine can make thousands. As we can learn from Art and Industry, the inaugural exhibition at the brand-new Boilerhouse gallery of the Victoria and Albert Museum (until March 2), the classic telephone design which is still in most general use throughout the world was the work, not of one of those special creatures, an industrial designer, but of the Norwegian painter Jean Heiberg, a follower of Matisse who had never before in his life designed anything practical, but was asked for his ideas on the subject in 1931 and came up with the familiar outline.

In other respects the two new shows in the two galleries are not so different either. The Boilerhouse show takes an historical line, starting with Henry Cole and the foundation of the Museum of Practical Art, which eventually became the V & A, then pointing out milestones of modern industrial design mainly in terms of the individuals responsible: Norman Bel Geddes and his visionary fantasies (produced in the intervals of designing stage spectacles for Reinhardt), Raymond Loewy and his streamlined engines, Sixten Sason and his streamlined cars, right up the Eliot Noyes, IBM typewriters and Mobil gas stations. it makes the point only to observe that the forst models for Noyes typewriters and diesel engines are conceived and presented as (very beautiful) abstract sculptures, and that Loewy could unabashed (not that anything much did abash him) consider and sell to hsi clients "the cash value of art".

There are historical sidelights in the Design Council exhibitions too. Here the prime interest is in the art value of craft, which is demonstrated in various ways. Alison Britton, for instance, juxtaposes a basic stoneware jug by John Davies with a painting by Ben Nicholson, a pot by Elizabeth Fritsch called Black Shadow of Death with a drawing by William Scott. Mary Farmer includes a famous Richard Hamilton and one of Hockney's *Paper Pools*, which visibly belong in the same smotional world as the perspex jewellery and Sue Black jumper she also shows. Next to Emmanuel Cooper's motorcycle is a banner by John Dugger featuring appliqué aircraft. But many of the selectors also look to the roots of their own crafts. Joohn Mackpiece shows along with modern craftsman furniture a wonderfully simole, expressive Ernest Arnsley settle of 1898, and sculpture in walnot by Micholas pope, *Zigzag Column*, which grows as directly out of the nature of the wood.

Nor it is all painfully worthy and serious. Along with such solid pieces of traditional arts and crafts design as Stuart Hill's forged steel firegrate (selected by Alan Peters) there are quite a lot of enjoyable silly, punky, kitschy things, particularly in the selections of Malcolm Parsons and Connie Stevenson, both of which feature clothing and accessories and plastic handbags and oddities like George Waud's masks with (it is specified) mobile earrings. But in general it is a show of such richness and variety that it absolutely refuses to be pigeonholed, as craft, as art, as industrial design or as anything else.

The Makers '82 show at the British Crafts Centre in Earlham Street till January 30 sticks a lot closer to the traditional definitions of craft. Ceramics, glass, jewelry, metal work, knitting and weaving, even harpsichord-making, are all featured in the work of nearly 30 designer-makers. Some of them are altogether too traditional for my taste, in that their work, while decent enough and no doubt pleasant to use, is not really distinctive or, as with Peter Layton's neo-Tiffany glass, reverts to a tradition one would have thought by now outworn. The glass of David Kaplan and Annica Sandstrom, stencilled with bird and leaf patterns, is, however, simple and eye-catching. James Tower's big pots in boldly black-and-white tin-glazed earthenware certainly grab attention (though they would take up quite a lot of space), and the knitted or embroidered clothes by Sue Black (again) should look wonderful on anyone striking enough in herself not to be overwhelmed by them.

Finally, another unclassifiable artist: **Polly Hope**, whose "soft art" and drawings of the past decade are on show at the Warwick Arts Trust, 33 Warwick Square, until February 20. The art is soft because it takes the form of variously embroidered, batiked and padded wall-hangings (plus one extraordinary dress which would turn its wearer's whole body into a Medusa-head).

They are almost all representational, and take their subject-matter from life as well as from European peasant or Australian aboriginal art. There is, for example, an astonishing portrait-group, *The Szekessy Family* appliqué, padded and quilted, with painted fibre-glass masks; a gigantic evocation of gingerbread men in the most delicately graded shades of grey and fawn and pink, *Oven Vows*, and some very odd pieces inspired, it would appear, by a holiday in Greece. The work is funny, and stylish, and makes a very personal statement. Art, craft or whatever: who finally cares what you call it, provided it is there?

John Russell Taylor

Cinema

Poland's unpardoned film-makers

When the periodic hammer-blows fall in countries of the Socialist East, the cinema is usually the first and worst-hit of the arts, wryly confirming Lenin's belief in its powers as a political instrument. The Hungarian cinema took several years to recover from 1956, and the Czech cinema has never recovered from 1968. The film-makers of the Prague Spring are today either in exile (with Milos Forman and Ivan Passer doing well in Hollywood), inactive, or employed on anodyne nothings. The masterpieces of the period, such as *The Fireman's Ball* and *Pearls of the Deep*, have vanished forever.

Last week's announcement by the Polish military authorities made clear that the Polish film-makers are not to be forgiven for that brilliant period from the late-Seventies when their cinema became the conscience of the nation, exposing and analysing the corruption, the spiritual collapse and the disquiet which were to climax in the events of summer 1980. Currently there is an opportunity to see, at the Gate Cinema Bloomsbury, one of the best of the school, Krzysztof Kieslowski's fine comedy *Camera Buff*, in which the processes of official double-talk are laid bare. Also due in London soon is Krzysztof Zanussi's *The Contract*, an absurdist comedy in which a disastrous wedding party serves as a microcosm of Polish society in the last days of the Gierek era.

Predictably the main target of the official attack was Andrzej Wajda and particularly his *Man of Iron* — a lightning sketch, but still a permanent and epic memorial to the events of 1980. While the military authorities are condemning the film as an incitement to social anarchy, the American Motion Picture Academy has nominated it for this year's Oscar for the best foreign-language film.

With the kind of public attack already launched on Wajda, a trial must seem almost inevitable. For the moment there is some uncertainty about his precise fate. It is thought he was arrested a day or two before the declaration of martial law on December 12, then released, arrested and released again. One theory is that even General Jaruzelski recognizes the embarrassment of holding under arrest the country's most internationally-regarded theatre and film artist, and prefers to play a cat-and-mouse game while deciding how precisely *to deal with the problem.*

Zanussi, alongside Wajda as one of the two leading personalities of Polish cinema, was out of the country when martial law was declared, working on a film for Saarbrucken television, *The Imperative*, starring Robert Powell. (Ironically the film almost foundered, because of production difficulties, and was saved only by the persistence and personal sacrifice of Powell; but for this Zanussi would have been back in Warsaw by December 12.)

Zanussi has not returned to Poland: at the moment he is serving on the Jury of the *Manila Film Festival*. It is clear enough that the succession of films — *Camouflage*, *The Constant Factor* and *The Contract* — in which he analysed with lucid brilliance the moral failure of contemporary Poland, can find no favour with the present regime. As recently as November Wajda and Zanussi had given a press conference to announce their plans for an independent Polish film festival in February.

Wajda had remained president of the Association of Film-makers; but since Solidarity, Zanussi had resigned his post as vice-president — not from lack of sympathy but because he felt that the times demanded more militancy than came naturally to his temperament. Since then the post had been jointly held by Agnieska Holland and Krzysztof Kieslowski.

Holland had been assistant to Zanussi, and was co-writer on Wajda's *Rough Treatment*, a harrowing story of the rods that socialist establishments keep in pickle for those who step out of line. Both Wajda and Holland were all *too* aware of the techniques — he as a result of his official disgrace after *Man of Marble*; she as the daughter of a prominent Jewish politician whose life ended in one of those falls from a window which at one period seemed epidemic. Her own first feature film, *Provincial Actors*, is due to open in London shortly.

Holland also happened to be out of Poland at the time of the military takeover: she was in Zurich with a Solidarity delegation, and was last week in Paris. She is said to have received a message from a source close to Wajda, strongly advising her against returning home.

As yet there is no news of the fate of Kieslowski, though he is thought still to be at liberty. Fellow-Poles have a somewhat romantic faith in his gift for self-preservation. "Perhaps", they say, "he's gone underground"

Janusz Majewski, whose film, *Kung Fu*, was one of the first group to expose possibilities of economic and social corruption, and whose *Indeks* was suppressed until it was finally screened at the Gdansk Film Festival last autumn, was arrested at the start of martial law but released after a few days.

Others reliably reported to have been arrested include Boleslaw Michalek, one of the most respected Polish critics and along with the chairman of the International Critics Association; Halina Mikolajsaka, the distinguished actress; and Andrzej Kijowski, an official of the Polish Writers' Association who was co-scenarist of Zannussi's latest film *John Paul II — From a Far Country* co produced by Lord Grade.

● *Postcript*: My apologies for confusing Hilary Ryan with Susannah Fowle in the still photograph published from *The Getting of Wisdom* while discussing BBC's Australian film season last week.

David Robinson

The Gdansk shipyards blocked by the militia in Wajda's *Man of Iron*

● Glenn Winslade, a 26-year-old Australian tenor, has won the Esso/Glyndebourne Award. He joins the Glyndebourne Chorus this year, and will sing Don Ottavio in Glyndebourne Touring Opera's performances of *Don Giovanni* in the autumn. The soprano Catherine Benson, who plays Zerlina in the same performances, has received the Glyndebourne Touring Opera Singers' Award.

Stock Exchange Prices

Low turnover

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 11. Dealings End Jan 22. § Contango Day Jan 25. Settlement Day, Feb 1.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
64	20	Gieves Grp	34	..	..	..	..
237	143	Gill & Duffus	157	-1	12.0	7.6	10.4
57	30	Glasgow Pavilion	39	..	..	..	..
108	45	Glass Glover	108	..	3.4	3.2	20.1
454	242	Glaxo Hldgs	454	..	16.1	3.5	13.4
75	39	Glossop Ltd	73	+1	6.6	9.0	14.3
113	70½	Glynwed	104	..	10.5	10.1	6.3

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
91	50	Meyer M. L.	75	+3	3.1	4.2	..
93	48	Midland Ind	58	..	3.7	6.4	..
173	82	Milletts Leis	83	..	9.9	12.0	8.1
180	88	Mining Supplies	108	..	2.9	2.6	12.3
50	42½	Mitchell Cotts Gp	49	+½	5.3	10.5	13.5
88	61	Mixconcrete	88	..	5.8	6.6	..
29	12	Moben Grp	13	+1	..	..	6.1

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
35	21	Mang Bronze	29	.	3.1	10.7	.
154	72	Marchwiel	120	+5	8.6	7.1	
142	106	Marks & Spencer	133	+2	5.8	4.4	18.1
51	33½	Marley Ltd	44	+½	3.2	7.3	14.3
32	14½	Marling Ind	30½	+1	1.4	4.6	21.3
42	22	Marshall T Lox	40	.	4.0	9.9	3.6
39	21	Do A	35	.	4.0	11.3	3.1
262	178	Martin News	253	•	13.9	5.5	6.0
270	209	Martonair	225	+2	10.9	4.8	13.2
74	48	Medminster	65	.	5.3	8.1	7.0
250	140	Menzies J.	218	-2	5.6	2.8	10.9
234	128	Metal Box	168	+4	16.5	9.8	14.7
52¾	37¼	Metalrax	40	.	3.1	7.8	6.5
35	12	Mettoy	14	.	0.1	1.0	

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
110	79	Sunlight Serv	98		3.6	3.7	8.0
52	31	Sutcliffe S'man	43		.e		
188	32½	Swire Pacific 'A'	102	-2½			
180	140	Syltone	180		12.9	7.1	20.0

T — Z

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	20		e		6.0
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	93	..	10.0	10.8	5.1
24½	10⅜	Takeda BDR	£23	..	17.6	0.7	25.1
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	5½				
404	316	Tarmac Ltd	402	+2	23.3	5.8	6.2

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) January 18	Market rates (close) January 18	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8625-8840	$1.8825-8835	0.25-0.15c prem	0.35-0.25c prem
Montreal	$2.2250-2520	$2.2505-2515	0.10c prem-par	0.05-0.20c disc
Amsterdam	4.71-76fl	4.74-75fl	1⅞-1⅜c prem	5⅛-4⅝c prem
Brussels	73.50-74.10f	73.80-90f	18-38c disc	85-115c disc
Copenhagen	14.08-17k	14.10½-11½k	500-225ore prem	470-375ore prem
Dublin	1.2180-2275p	1.2250-2265p	23-33p disc	81-97p disc
Frankfurt	4.30½-34½m	4.32½-33½m	2-1½pf prem	5¼-4¾pf prem
Lisbon	124.75-126.00e	125.75-126.00e	30-155c disc	115-395c disc
Madrid	185.50-186.75p	186.50-70p	10-30c disc	50-80c disc
Milan	2310-19lr	2315-17lr	10⅛-13⅛lr disc	39-43lr disc
Oslo	10.96-11.05k	11.04-05k	335-215ore prem	510-405ore prem
Paris	10.95-11.02f	10.98½-99½	⅛-1⅛c disc	3⅛-4⅛c disc
Stockholm	10.53-61k	10.58¾-60¼k	235-165ore prem	635-565ore prem
Tokyo	418-26y	424-25y	3.50-3.10y prem	9.05-8.75y prem
Vienna	30.15-40sch	30.33-38sch	18-14gro prem	40-33gro prem
Zurich	3.46-49½f	3.47¾-48¾f	2¾-1¾c prem	5½-5c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.2 at 90.8

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14¼ Low 12

Week Fixed: 14⅛-14¼

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14⅛	2 months	14⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	14²⁵⁄₃₂	3 months	14¹¹⁄₃₂

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	14⁷⁄₁₆-14⁵⁄₁₆	1 month	15⅛
2 months	14⁷⁄₁₆-14⁵⁄₁₆	2 months	15⅛
3 months	14⁹⁄₁₆-14⁷⁄₁₆	3 months	15⅛
6 months	14⁵⁄₁₆-14³⁄₁₆	6 months	14⅞

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	16⅛-16¼	7 months	15⅜-15⅛
2 months	16¼-16	8 months	15⅜-15⅛
3 months	16¼-15½	9 months	15⅜-15⅛
4 months	16¼-15⅞	10 months	15⅜-15⅛
5 months	16-15¾	11 months	15⅞-15⅛
6 months	15⅞-15⅝	12 months	15½-15¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	15⅛-15	6 months	15⁷⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	15⅜-15⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	15⁷⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅞-14⅝	3 months	15½
7 days	14¾	6 months	15½
1 month	15	1 year	15½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight. Open 14½ Close 15-14½

1 week	14⅞-14⅝	6 months	15½-15⅜
1 month	15⅛-15	9 months	15⁷⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	15½-15⅜	12 months	15⁷⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15⅞ 6 months 15⅞

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6705-1.6855
Bahrein	0.7010-0.7040
Finland	8.2615-8.3015
Greece	110.00-112.00
Hongkong	10.9920-11.0320
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.5280-0.5310
Malaysia	4.2340-4.2540
Mexico	48.40-49.90
New Zealand	2.2935-2.3135
Saudi Arabia	6.3820-6.3920
Singapore	3.8565-3.8565
South Africa	1.8035-1.8185

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5310-1.5340
† Canada	1.1956-1.1958
Netherlands	2.5200-2.5230
Belgium	39.20-39.23
Denmark	7.5075-7.5125
West Germany	2.2980-2.2995
Portugal	66.90-67.00
Spain	98.90-99.00
Italy	1232.00-1233.00
Norway	5.8645-5.895
France	5.8470-5.8500
Sweden	5.6290-5.6320
Japan	225.25-225.40
Austria	16.08-16.10
Switzerland	1.8530-1.8555

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8363-0.8365

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 12-13; seven days, 13-13¼; one month, 13⅝-13⅞; three months, 14³⁄₁₆-14⁷⁄₁₆; six months, 15-15¼.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $369.75 (an ounce); pm, $373.75 close, $372.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $382-384 (£203.70-204.70).
Sovereigns (new): $90-91 (£48-48.50).

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
38	27½	Calcutta Elec	38	..	9.1	24.0	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£31½	+½	500	15.9	..
34	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£34	..	150	4.4	12.8
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	211	+3	11.9	5.6	13.4
148	93	Milford Docks	138	+2	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	130	..	10.0	7.7	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£31½	+½	500	15.9	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A and G Sec Elect 5p Ord (80a)	82
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	97
City Site 25p Ord (35a)	31
Computer and Systems Eng 20p Ord (225)	218
Cussins Property Group 20p Ord (82)	85+1
Equipu 10p Ord (80a)	83
Good Relations Group 10p Ord (61a)	60+2
Hardanger Properties 10p Ord (100a)	97+1
Hayters £1 Ord (150a)	159+3
Moray Firth Exp	98
Newmarket Co (1981) Ltd $0.05 (£3.05)	295
Nimslo Int $0.20 Ord ($4.25a)	150
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	16+½
Peek Holings 7p Ord	5
Saxon Oil 50p Ord (12½p paid)	69
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	117
Television South 10p Ord NV (ak)	32
Do 14/20% 1988-88 Ln (ak)	39
Treasury 3% 1987	£64⅝

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
ICL (25†)	Feb 12	8½ prem+¼
Kwik Save Disc (180)	Feb 26	38 prem+4
Wearwell (50‡)	Feb 19	2 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £30 paid. j £25 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

Camping stores take profits lead, page 18

Business News

THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 19 1982

ACC looks set to go to Holmes a'Court

Mr Robert Holmes a'Court could announce control of Associated Communications Corporation by Thursday and the only thing which would then stand in the way of a successful £36m takeover for Lord Grade's former company would be a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

There have been suggestions that his rival, Mr Gerald Ronson, could enlist the support of Mr Gill, former ACC managing director, who still retains 15 per cent of the ACC votes. But Mr Gill said last night: "I have never met Mr Ronson in my life. I cannot say any more."

At present, the Australian financier is caught by the rules governing quick-fire bids and today's High Court attempt by Mr Jack Gill to stop any transfer of shares.

It is thought likely that Mr Gill's attempt to stop share transfers before a vote has been taken on his £560,000 compensation payment for loss of office, which is part of a £750,000 golden handshake package, will fail.

Mr Holmes a'Court will be released from the seven-day cooling-off period under the Council for the Securities Industry rules on Thursday. These rules applied because of his agreement to buy Lord Grade's 27.6 per cent voting stake when Mr Holmes a'Court announced terms of his offer last week.

Mr Holmes a'Court still has to wait for a monopolies and mergers clearance from the Secretary of State for Trade. This is expected shortly.

Large institutional shareholders taking legal action to stop Mr Gill's payout were increasingly sceptical last night that a £42.5m counter proposal to buy ACC by Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation would ever become a formal offer.

Meanwhile ACC's defence against legal action to stop Mr Gill's payout, lead by the Post Office pension fund, will be lodged with lawyers tomorrow.

The Post Office has been given an undertaking by ACC that it would not pay any money or sell property to Mr Gill until after a full High Court hearing in February. The Post Office returns to the High Court on Monday for the undertakings to be extended.

It was earned last night that Mr Holmes a'Court has joined the Post Office petition in his capacity as a non-voting shareholder.

Lloyds group in lead for Bowmaker

By Our Financial Staff

Lloyds and Scottish, owned by Lloyds Bank and Royal Bank of Scotland, and one of the largest finance houses in the country, last night emerged as the front runner in the S G Warburg auction for Bowmaker.

Royal Bank of Scotland, whose proposed merger with Standard Chartered, along with a rival bid from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last Friday, is believed to have shelved its independent bid for Bowmaker weeks ago.

A decision is expected from Warburg later this week. Among a short-list of seven, are leading international banks including some from the United States and West Germany. Observers expect the winning tender price for Bowmaker to approach £100m.

There was some surprise in the City that Royal Bank had fallen by the wayside after showing initial interest.

The fast that it withdrew ahead of the Monopolies Commission report will raise a few eyebrows. Consumer finance had been seen as a suitable alternative in the absence of a merger with Standard Chartered.

Bowmaker is part of C. T. Bowring, the insurance broking group, which was taken over by Marsh McLennan of the United States. It was put up for sale last October.

Although it had a spell in the Bank of England's lifeboat during the middle of the 1970s, Bowmaker has recovered strongly. Net tangible assets are £50m and profits in 1980 were £5.7m pretax. There are over 100 offices throughout the United Kingdom.

No one from Royal Bank of Scotland was available for comment yesterday.

Shares in Royal Bank fell a further 7p yesterday to 119p continuing the slide which began last week as news that the bids were to be blocked leaked out.

☐ Mr Michael Sandberg, chairman of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank paid a courtesy call on Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday. The meeting was aimed at reestablishing friendly relations in the wake of the battle over Royal Bank of Scotland. The Governor strongly opposed Hongkong and Shanghai's bid which did not have Bank of England approval.



Buying: from left, John Mather, Philip Mayo, David White, Peter Thompson, Geoff Pygall, Brian Hayward, James Watson.

NFC staff snap up bargain shares

Twenty-six thousand clerks, lorry drivers, warehousemen and typists are this week being offered control of the state-owned National Freight Company at a price city investors would be queueing the length of Lombard Street for, a banker said yesterday.

More than 80 per cent of the shares of the company, whose asset value is about £100m, are being offered by the Government, to employees, pensioners and families for just over £4m. he remaining 20 per cent have already been snapped up by banks.

Seven senior managers have pledged £300.000 between them. Of these the biggest potential investor is the chief executive, Mr Peter Thompson, aged 52. He is putting up £40,000 witeh a bank loan on the strength of his £130,000 house in Radlett, Hertfordshire.

The basic reason for the saff bid, Mr Thompson makes clear in the prospectus reaching staff and pensioners this week, was to defend the company from predators when the Government had decided to "privatize" it. But, he adds, "We had a vision. We believed, as we do today, that by treating a company controlled and owned mainly by employees, we were launching a new kind of industrial enterprise.

"We believe that this will help to get rid of the conflicts between management and workers traditional to British industry—the 'us and them' attitude." In its place would be a new attitude of cooperation which should lead to improved efficiency, better prospects for employment, and better profitability.

Mr Thommpson is coy about profit prospects but there is little doublt that employees, pensioners and relatives who stump up an average of £100 each next month can expect to double or treble their money byt the time the shares go on general sale in 1985.

If the employees do not come up with the money the offer will fail and the Government will prsumably find a different way of seling the company. But the directors are expecting it to be oversubscribed by half.

'Profit' of £15m on doomed smelter

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The financial settlement between the Government and British Aluminium after the company's decisilon to close its Invergordon smelter in the Scottish Highlands has left the company £15.5m in credit.

Full details of the terms were given to MPs yesterday in a Commons statement by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland. in which he confirmed that £21.2m of government loans made in 1968 to the company had been waived.

British Aluminium announced the closure last month and laid the blame firmly on the high cost of energy. Almost 900 jobs will be lost.

Mr Younger said that after termination of its contract with the North of Scotland Hydro Electricity Board, which provided the company with a share in hte capacit yof the Hunterston "B" power station, British Aluminium was left with £32.3m after payment of disputed power charges.

Jenkin yesterday: not insisting on repayment.

From this sum, the company has paid £4.5m to the board in settlement of outstanding electricity bills and £12.3m in part payment of Department of Industry loans.

The latter was sufficient to pay in full the principal and interest totalling £6.5m of a loan made in 1975 and part payment of £5.7m towards the 1968 loan, leaving £21.2m to be waived.

Mr Younger said that Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, did not insist that the whole of the £32.3m be used to pay the outstanding state loans because "it was the Government's intention that there should be an equitable settlement which would reduce the threat to the company's other activities caused by the continuing losses at the smelter".

Grindlays sells two Hongkong offshoots

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Grindlays Bank is to sell two of its Hongkong subsidiaries to the Hong Leong Group for £69.6m. They are Grindlays Dao Heng Bank, in recent years one of the most successful parts of Grindlays in volved in retail banking, and the small deposit-taking company Grindlays Finance.

Hong Leong Group is a diversified property, financial and industrial group which operates in South East Asia, mainly Malaysia and Singapore.

The sale will require a Class 1 circular and is subject to shareholders' approval, although Grindlays' main shareholders have already approved the deal. The subject of persistent takeover rumours, Grindlays is 49 per cent owned by the American Citibank. Grindlays Holdings, which owns the rest, is 41.4 per cent owned by Lloyds Bank.

Mr Alexander Ritchie, who was appointed chief executive last week, said the group wanted to reduce the disproportionate share of assets in Hongkong compared with the rest of the world but it would remain in Hongkong through its merchant banking subsidiary.

The two subsidiaries made pretax profits of £7.9m in 1981 and had a book value of £36.6m at the end of the year. This compares with a net worth for the whole of the bank of £130m at the end of 1980.

The proceeds of the sale will be repatriated to the United Kingdom, where Grindlays wants to build up its earnings to ease its tax problems.

De Lorean loan talks continue

The search continues for a financial backer for the De Lorean car company, of Belfast, after an inconclusive meeting yesterday between the company and the British Export Credits Guarantee Department. Further talks will be held at the Belfast offices of the Northern Ireland Development Agency tomorrow, but it was not clear yesterday whether Mr Jo4hn De Lorean, chairman of the company, would be taking part.

No one would officially confirm that the meeting was taking place, and the secrecy on all sides suggests that negotiat ions are at a critical stage.

Mr Donald Lander, De Lorean's managing director, emerged from the ECGD's London headquarters to say: "We had a good discussion. We're still negotiating, and that's the main thing."

De Lorean is urgently seeking Government guarantees for a loan of £26m, to be followed by a further £10m in March. A sharp decline in demand for the cars in the United States, where they are sold, has been mainly responsible for three-day working at the Belfast plant.

The ECGD, however, is unwilling to guarantee such a loan until it can be persuaded that De Lorean's financial position is strong enough.

Access to cut petrol commission

Access, the credit card company backed by five clearing banks, is to announce reduced commission charges for petrol retailers.

This was indicated after talks yesterday between Access and the Motor Agents' Association (MAA) after a dispute over the surcharging of customers by some petrol retailers.

Separate talks between the MAA and Barclaycard, the other big card operator, showed that Barclaycard was unwilling to reduce its commission rates further.

Barclaycard charges an average 2 per cent of each credit card transaction compared with more variable Access charges which the MAA claims can be as high as 2.9 per cent.

Surcharging had gone to 15p or more for each transaction as petrol retailers complained of the card company commissions soaking up half or more of the gross profit margin on petrol. But surcharging should be wiped out within a few weeks. Both card companies are no arning any retailers still surcharging that they could *forfeit* their card agencies unless they come into line.

BNOC may lose its rights to liquid gas

By Our Industrial Staff

Renewed protest from the Opposition are expected in the House of Commons today when the Government's controversial Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill for the privatization of the state's North Sea oil and gas interests has its second reading.

The Bill, which the Government hopes will complete its parliamentary passage by the autumn, allows for the disposal of the British Natonal Oil Corporation's oil production interests while maintaining the corporation's right, through its trading arm, to buy up to 51 per cent of all oil produced in the North Sea.

The Government's plans also include elimination of the British Gas monopoly on purchase of gas, the opening of the gas supply market to private competition and the sale of theg as corporation's oil production activities.

A total of £1,400m is expected to be raised from the sale which Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, has described as "the biggest privatization exercise ever introduced by any British Government."

Today's second reading comes *amid speculation* that Mr Lawson is intending to end the BNOC's right to purchase 51 per cent of all liquified petroleum gas (LPC) produced in the North Sea before the new Bill becomes law.

Such a move would take the proposed new state trading company out of the uncertain liquid gas market but the Government's opponents argue that it would reduce the company's bargaining powers with private oil companies and increase its financial vulnerability.

A Department of Energy statement is being prepared, possibly for release today, stressing that BNOC will retain a considerable role in handling LPG.

Leading the Opposition attack on the Bill will be Mr Ted Rowlands, a Labour front bench energy spokesman, who has described the break-up of the BNOC as leaving the nation with a weakened and vulnerable oil trading company dealing in the narrowest of margins in a volatile oil market.

Insurance expansion by Gill

Gill & Duffus, the commodity trading and financial services group, is to expand its interests in insurance broking by paying £6.63m for 50 per cent of Gillbrooke Insurance Holdings. Further additions to Gill & Duffus' insurance interests are possible later this year.

Gillbrooke was jointly owned by Gill & Duffus and Brooke Bond Liebeg, from whom Gill & Duffus is buying the stake. *Gill & Duffus will now* be the sole owner of Gillbrooke, whose operating company, Clarkson Puckle Group, is a member of Lloyds.

Clarkson Puckle earned about £16m in brokerage income last year on which profits were an estimated £2.1m. It employs around 1,000 people in the United Kingdom and another 200 overseas. Although it handles business from Brooke Bond and Gill & Duffus, most comes from third parties. Gillbrooke will continue as *broker to* Brooke Bond.

Mr Ron Blackman, deputy chairman of Gill and Duffus, said that his company was keen to develop financial services. Mr John Thomson, deputy chief executiv of Brooke Bond, said that Brooke Bond preferred to concentrate on its existing food and timber business.

Pre-tax profits of Gill and Duffus to the end of September fell by £3.1m to £20m, but the company intends to expand into sugar and grain trading.

■ **Stock Markets**
FT Index 534.7 up 3.1
FT Gilts 62.90
FT all share 309.52
Bargains 19,166

■ **Sterling**
\$1.8830 up 1.45 cents
Index 90.8 up 0.2

■ **Dollar**
Index 109.1 up 0.1
DM2.2987 down 135 pts

■ **Gold**
\$372.50 down \$4.00

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 15½-15¾
3 mth Euro \$14⅞-14⁵⁄₁₆
6 mth Euro \$15-15¼

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

APV Hldgs	7p to 243p
Ass News	10p to 188p
Bk of Scotland	10p to 492p
BAT Ind	17p to 373p
Daily Mail Tst	10p to 396p
Devenish	40p to 370p
Eagle Star	6p to 166p
Elliott B	15p to 323p
Gen Accident	6p to 312p
GT Univ Stores	7p to 463p
Grindlays Hldgs	8p to 211p
Husky Oil	15p to 415p
Inchape	10p to 293p
Utd Scientific	20p to 598p
Wigfall H.	12p to 133p

Falls

Anglo Am Corp	15p to 613p
Barlow Rand	10p to 415p
Blyvoors	14p to 467p
Broken Hill	15p to 565p
Cornell Dresses	13p to 143p
Joseph L.	10p to 233p
Middle Wits	15p to 580p
Philips Lamps	9p to 453p
Pretoria P Cem	10p to 330p
Racal Elect	9p to 376p
Rustenburg	8p to 194p
Sentrust	21p to 406p
UC Invest	21p to 580p
Ultramar	10p to 448p
Welkom	14p to 467p

Takeovers warning

More takeover of investment trusts, particularly by pension funds, are inevitable if discount ratings fail to improve, say fund managers.

Shares of companies which make up the £9,000m industry are trading at near-record discounts.

Brokers Wood McKenzie put the average discount on non-specialized general trusts — those most vulnerable to a takeover—at 29 per cent with about 17 of them showing discounts of 33 to 35 per cent.

In an effort to fend off unwanted takeovers, fund managers are revamping their image and changing trust names to describe more accurately the areas in which the funds invest.

Sterling gains as dollar slips

Sterling ended London tradin gnear its best levels of the day with a gain of 1.45 cents to \$1.8830. The dollar, which had strengthened earlier after thte surge in the latest United States money supply figures, fell back in the afternoon in the wake of renewed signs of American recession and easing Eurodollar interest rates.

The pound wa salso boosted by indications that the miners not give the required majority for strike action. It s trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies improved 0.2 to 90.8.

New Ulster job fears

Unemployment in Northern Ireland will rise this year from 109,000 to 118,000, or 21 per cent of the workforce, according to a new survey.

A study by Coopers and Lybrand, the consultants, forecasts that 8,000 jobs in manufacturing and 5,000 in service industries will be lost. But 3,000 new jobs will be created in the construction industry.

Introducing the survey yesterday, Mr Noel Stewart, a senior partner, said Ulster needed a "rescue unit" free from restrictions and comprising government and business representatives.

Corporate borrowing

The corporate sector had a net borrowing requirement of £823m in the third quarter of last year, according to latest official figures. This compares with a net repayment position of £1,735m in the second quarter when companies were flush with tax money as a result of the civil servants' dispute.

With funds generated by destocking sharply lower than In in the second quarter, the surplus before financial transactions was cut from £711m to £112m.

☐ Iran's Oil Minister said yesterday that his country would seek to boost its oil exports in order to boost its much needed hard currency reserves.

☐ Alfa Romeo yesterday laid off 30,000 workers and closed its factories for three weeks to reduce a growing stock of unsold cars, it was announced in Milan.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Output fall dashes hope of rapid recovery

Industrial output fell sharply in November after a big jump the previous month, disappointing hopes that a rapid recovery was under way. But the underlying trend suggests continued sluggish growth, in line with Government forecasts (Frances Williams writes).

Figures published yesterday by the Central Statistical Office show that industrial production fell by 1.5 per cent in November, wiping out much of the two per cent increase in October. Strikes in the motor industry and lower demand for gas and electricity after October's exceptionally cold weather accounted for nearly a third of the drop.

Output in manufacturing also fell by 1.5 per cent between October and November across a broad range of industries, more than outweighing the 1.1 per cent rise the previous month and leaving production nearly ½ per cent below its September level.

However, over the latest three months—a more reliable guide to underlying trends—industrial output was 1.4 per cent up on the preceding three months, though still ½ per cent below its level a year earlier and more than 12 per cent below the peak in spring 1979.

Much of the recent improvement has come from record production from North Sea gas and oil fields, which was 16 per cent higher than in the same three months in 1980. Excluding the North Sea sector industrial output in the latest three months rose by just 0.7 per cent.

In manufacturing, output in the three months to November was 1 per cent higher than three months earlier, though ½ per cent below its level a year ago and 15¼ per cent down on peak 1979 levels. Metal manufacture and chemicals, coal and petroleum sector—both traditional pathfinders out of recession—have shown the strongest recovery.

Bill rates move

The Bank of England marginally lowered the rate at which it bought short-dated eligible bills from the discount market yesterday, to a level of 14 5-16 from the 14⅜ per cent ruling previously. But the move was generally seen as more to do with the Bank's wish to encourage greater use of bill finance (as opposed to overdrafts) rather than as any pointer to interest rates generally.

Trade focus

Trade promotion activities of the British Overseas Trade Board, until now housed at three separate London locations, were yesterday centralized for operations from headquarters at the Department of Trade building in Victoria Street, London. The board's regional offices will continue to operate.

Japanese surplus up

Japan announced yesterday that its trade surplus with the rest of the world last year rose to \$8,890m, boosted by record balances in its favour with the United tSates and the European Community.

The surplus, calculated on goods passing through customs, was half the record \$18,200m surplus in 1978, but was a sharp turnaround from 1980 when Japan had a record trade deficit of \$10,720m. Vehicles remained the largest single export item, accounting for nearly 18 per cent of total Japanese overseas shipments.

However, fuel imports which have in past years been a big deficit-producing item in Japan's trade, moved up only 4 per cent, with purchases of crude oil increasing just over 1 per cent from 1980.

Vehicle export curbs needed

Japanese vehicle manufacturers might have to lower car shipments to the United States in the fourth-quarter (January-March) of fiscal 1981 by about 20 per cent to some 360,000 compared with the same 1980 period. Such a curb would be necessary to hold Japanese car exports to the United States in the year down to an agreed 1.68 million vehicles.

Japanese car exports to the United States in the first nine months of the year totalled about 1.32 million, accounting for some 79 per cent of the ceiling, industry sources said.

TODAY

Lord Soames speaking at American Chamber of Commerce lunch in London.

MFT Furniture: Half-year figures.





How one man brought a breath of fresh air

A sleeping-bag giant awakes

By a Staff Reporter

For most of their history Boy Scouts have known everything there is to know about camping — except how to make money from it.

No longer. As the spiritual side of the movement prepares to celebrate 75 years of good deeds and clean living (next Monday sees the launch of the Year of the Scout) the commercial side of the operation is already toasting a year in which Scout Shops Ltd outstripped all opposition to become the country's leading supplier of camping equipment with a turnover of £5.1m. Of this, £3½m came from the shops, £1½m from wholesale activities and £600,000 from mail orders.

A vigorous policy of expansion has added two more shops to the chain, bringing the total number of Camping and Outdoor Centres, as Scout shops are now known, to 17 and by April, 1983, the company expects to have another seven or eight stores under its belt.

The change of image from hearty do-gooders with a nice line in knots to thrusting efficient businessmen — in the current year the shops are expected to handle £3½ million worth of business, an increase of nearly 30 per cent on the year before — is largely due to the energy of one man.

In just 10 months Gerry Bass, lured from Dixon's, the camera people, where in 15 years he had worked as both purchasing and marketing manager, has cut through the somewhat unwordly Scout Shops organization (they are a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Scout Association) like a hot knife through butter.

The old "softly softly" approach to store displays and advertising has been outlawed in favour of what the mercurial Mr Bass, a 38-year-old managing director of Scout Shops Ltd, calls a "hard-hitting aggressive marketing operation."

Out has gone the jumbled, old-fashioned camping shop, its easy-going sales approach redolent of the happy amateur. Mr Bass's shops bristle with Day-Glo posters which lure the customer off the street with siren promises — "Sale 82" "Half price scoop buys!"

Rucksacks have been dragged from drawers and sleeping bags brought out of storerooms to be hung on pegs, school cloakroom style, so that the customer can make his own inspection. The sales staff, many of whom are dedicated former scouts (Mr Bass, who is 6ft 3ins., resigned after passing his Tenderfoot because he did not like wearing short trousers) now sport a uniform of brown jacket, beige trousers.

But it is in the new shops — Maidstone and Bournemouth — that the change is most dramatic. A team of designers was hired to create an atmosphere in keeping with what Mr Bass saw as the camping store of the 1980s — he points out that camping is the twelfth largest participatory leisure pursuit in the country, with as many families camping each year in Britain as go on packages to Spain.

Blue and yellow was selected as the colour scheme — "suggestive of the outdoor life yet not too cold" — and the theme runs throughout the cosily carpeted store, from the blue and yellow fascia above the window to the price tickets.

Says Mr Bass: "It is traditional in the camping shop world to believe that because the camper tramps through muddy fields to visit tent exhibitions comfort and aesthetics mean nothing to him. We disagree. Our view is that he is entitled to the same facilities as his wife expects when she goes shopping".

The other marketing area where Mr Bass has made his presence felt is pricing. "When I took over customers believed that because we were to do with scouting we were dear compared to our competitors. But, he says with satisfaction, "We have a very competitive pricing structure."

This has been achieved in part by putting the word round manufacturers that Scout Shops are in the market for any "specials."

Thus at the moment the shops are selling a line of surplus American tents which a British supplier bought at half price. A deal with Camping Gaz, concluded, felicitously, before the cold snap with its attendant power cuts, has enabled them to offer 5,000 lanterns at well below normal price.

The hard sell message which has swept through the corridors of the Lancing HQ of Scout Shops is now reflected in the company's advertising. After less than a year of taking the Bass medicine the advertising bill already stands at more than £200,000 — nearly double the year before.

Mr Bass explains: "We have kept our old advertising agency but their brief has been changed. We have abandoned the softsell approach and become very aggressive. We believe we are the best in the business and now our adverts reflect that belief."

And while under the old regime they would have been discursive, now, says Mr Bass, they are about selling the product: "What it is, how much it costs and where you can get it."

Some of the old guard may have initially raised their eyebrows at Mr Bass's hustling technique — he certainly trod on a few toes to get airguns into scout shops — but there is no doubt that it works. He says people bring his ads into branches, torn out of their newspaper, a sight he hasn't seen since his early days with Dixons, while sales at the shops are booming.

The new one at Maidstone did 30 per cent more business on its first day of trading than was projected, Bournemouth in its first month has already leapt into the top five busiest branches, while, thanks to a first-ever Christmas promotion (the company had previously assumed no one would buy Christmas presents as a camping shop) Christmas week was the busiest since the peak holiday season in July.

Meanwhile Mr Bass is already looking forward to new lines with which to tempt his proliferating customers. "I'm rather interested in waterproof cameras," he mused.



Peter Addis

Gerry Bass: luring the customer with a mercurial approach to marketing

TURNOVER

Shops	£3½m
Wholesale	£1½m
Mail order	£600,000

Business appointments

Ludwick named to lead Delta's cable division

Mr Ron Ludwick has been appointed sole managing director of the cables division of Delta Group on the retirement of Mr Alan Morgan the other joint managing director.

Mr Patrick Moorsom is to join the board of Cayzer as managing director on February 1, 1982, on relinquishing his present position as a under-director of Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas. Mr Moorsom will also be joining the board of Cayzer, Gartmore and Cayzer, Gartmore Investments.

Mr Michael Boyce becomes managing director of Volstatic Coatings. He is also president and chief executive officer of Volstatic Inc., the company's subsidiary in the United States. Mr Boyce succeeds Mr Bob Lever, the founder of Volstatic, who remains as chairman.

Mr J. M. Souness, a director and general manager of the Life Association of Scotland, has been elected chairman of the Associated Scottish Life Offices. He succeeds Mr J. M. MacHarg, who steps down after completing the customary two year term in the chair. Mr W. M. Morrison, a director and general manager of the Scottish Life Assurance Company, becomes deputy chairman.

Mr Crawford Gray is now financial director of the Parker Pen Company.

Mr Peter Ross, partner in Henderson Crosthwaite, has been appointed a director of L. Texas Petroleum.

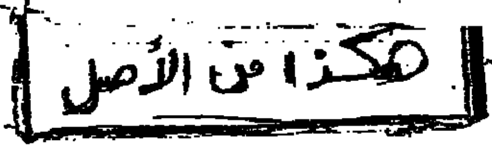
Mr John E. Jewiss has succeeded Mr E. Norris as chairman of Hartley Cooper Holdings.

Mr Gerald a. Dingley has been appointed president director general of Pentax France, a newly established subsidiary of Asahi Optical of Japan. Mr Dingley is managing director of Pentax UK and will continue with his current responsibilities for Pentax marketing and distribution in this country.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14½%
Barclays	14½%
BCCI	14½%
Consolidated Crds.	14½%
C. Hoare & Co	*14½%
Lloyds Bank	14½%
Midland Bank	14½%
Nat Westminster	14½%
TSB	14½%
Williams & Glyn's	14½%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 12½%, up to £50,000 13%, over £50,000 13½%



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Banking sector still buzzing

Bankers can move quickly when the pressure is on. The first working day since the Monopolies Commission blocked the rival bids for Royal Bank of Scotland set the industry alive with speculation. News that Lloyds and Scottish, split 60/40 per cent between Lloyds Bank and RBS, has joined the Warburgs auction for Bowmaker prompts a question about RBS strategy. And the sale of part of Grindlays Holdings' Hongkong interests hinted that the overlong saga of Grindlays could at last be on the final lap.

Both items of news have important implications for the RBS preferred strategy now that the merger with Standard Chartered has been blocked. Consumer finance is an attractive diversification move for RBS, and Bowmaker, formerly part of C T Bowring, would have fitted the bill admirably at a cost of around £100m.

But Lloyds Bank, which wishes to buy out the RBS stake in L and S, would seem to be in with the best chance and RBS can be counted as out of the running. The alternative for RBS would be to buy the instalment credit division of First National Finance Corporation which has a loan portfolio of about £110m and would be less costly than Bowmaker if not as attractive.



Sir Michael Herries — chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland

Grindlays Bank is another possible option for RBS. There could be a case for some horse-trading between Citibank, which owns 51 per cent, and Lloyds, which controls 41.4 per cent of the holding company.

Citibank may be happy to sell its stake for some RBS branches. For RBS the attraction of Grindlays lies in its overseas interests, principally in the Far East.

Any deal over Grindlays however, is likely to depend upon the strategies of Lloyds Bank and Citibank with RBS placed very much in the position of suppliant. Outside consumer finance and Grindlays, RBS has more freedom for manoeuvre. The Williams and Glyn's branch network in England (and Wales) could be expanded. Mergers between building societies could help release suitable premises, enabling W & G to increase market share from the present 2.7 per cent. Ironically, this option, by stressing that W & G is the growth-laden partner, somewhat destroys the commission's Scottish argument.

Lastly, RBS might pursue its international ambitions by buying a United States bank. North Sea oil expertise favours a Texan bank, with a fair price and an agreed bid "must" conditions.

National Freight Corporation

Over the next few weeks thousands of lorry drivers will be supplementing their daily reading diet with details of the staff buy-out at the National Freight Corporation. Although the prospectus has been written with admirable clarity, the best argument they have for parting with cash is that a group of banks are putting up £51m to start NFC on a proper financial footing. Not only are the banks putting their money where their mouth is, but they will end up with an equity participation of 17½ per cent for a minimum of five years.

Indeed, that is about the only argument prospective purchasers do have. The prospectus admits that a more conventional privatization channel, such as a stock exchange flotation, would have been doomed to failure because of the group's poor profits record; and there was the danger of NFC being gobbled up by a predator. There are no profit forecasts and employees just have to take on trust the consortium's assertions that the business is in better shape. Recent history at NFC would lead harder-bitten investors to be more sceptical about this. But Barclays Merchant Bank, which has masterminded the idea, presumably has access to NFC's corporate development plan and cash flow projections and reckons it will see its money back.

Employees have been given the extra bait of an interest-free loan totalling £3m to persuade them to take up shares. But after the initial enthusiasm there have been more signs of the pocket overruling the heart and the attitude of trade unions, like the GMWU, — ideologically opposed to denationalization — could still scupper the plan. If enough employees do not subscribe, NFC goes back into the melting pot and could be sold piecemeal to the private sector.

Meanwhile, the banks have been breaking new ground withj the NFC scheme, not only because of the sheer scale of the buy-out, but in their willingness to lend a large amount of money on a balance sheet that would scare the pants off the average branch manager.

The French Government will be anything but delighted with the Constitutional Council's rejection of parts of its nationalisation bill. The bare bones of the matter is that the nationalisation plan is broadly upheld in principle — the major change being to add a number of co-operative banking groups to the list — but that the basis of compensation is rejected.

In short, a shopping list that was set to cost the government of the order of Fr F30,000m now looks likely to cost nearer Fr F40,000m. The major changes in the basis of compensation will come from taking account of the 1981 dividend, new inflation-adjusted criteria for historic share price performance, and the use of group rather than parent company net assets.

Major beneficiaries of the new basis of compensation should be companies like Pechiney, where some estimates suggest the government may have to raise its price by 80-90 per cent.

'It is often very difficult for a jury to understand what fraud cases are about. Often the judges do not really understand it themselves. Or they are not strict enough and allow the defence counsel to confuse everyone and drag out the trial for a ridiculous length of time. It was quite impossible for a jury to cope with a case sitting for months on end' — Lord Shawcross



Fraud trials — the legal system reaches breaking point

Are fraud cases becoming too costly, time consuming and difficult to bring?

Recent delays by the Director of Public Prosecutions in deciding whether or not to bring fraud charges in certain cases have encouraged speculation that the DPP may be looking even more carefully than usual at both his reports and his wallet before instituting proceedings.

Such unkind remarks are of course instantly rebutted by the DPP's office.

What cannot be ignored, however, is the great cost and length of some recent fraud prosecutions, and the recent loud grumblings from both inside and outside the courtroom about the inadequacy of the system.

Lord Shawcross, a former Attorney-General who for years was chairman of the City's Take-over Panel, combined commercial and legal experience in a unique way. He is all to familiar with the problem:

"It is often very difficult for a jury to understand what these cases are about. Often the judges do not really understand it themselves. Or they are not strict enough and allow the defence counsel to confuse everyone and drag out the trial for a ridiculous length of time. It is quite impossible for a jury to cope with a case sitting for months on end."

Recent cases at the Central Criminal Court illustrate the problems. In a case just before Christmas the judge actually apologized to the jury for having to sit through a case of great complexity.

Several of the fraud charges involving aircraft insurance had already been thrown out because conflicting evidence from expert witnesses might have confused the jury. This case ending in an acquittal, only went on for a month — modest by fraud trial standards.

Last December also saw the final chapter in the Universal Banking case — now notorious as the longest running criminal trial in our history. And, with costs estimated at £3m, also one of the most expensive.

This case, over allegations of a £25m fraud, originally started in 1979 and ran for 137 days before being stopped after a member of the jury had been approached.

The reason for the re-trial had nothing to do with its being a fraud case but even at this stage the costs were estimated at £1.25m. The re-trial started in September 1980 and lasted for a further 137 days. The jurors, who had served eight months in the second trial, were understandably discharged for life.

Judge Brian Gibbens QC declared there should be a political decision about whether complex financial cases should continue to be tried by a jury. His view was that fraud trials could be dealt with more swiftly and cheaply by a panel of financial experts.

When the Universal Banking case finally arrived in the Court of Appeal last month, Lord Chief Justice Lane remarked that big fraud trials placed too great a strain on judges and juries: "I am beginning to wonder whether anyone can recieve justice in a case like this."

The Universal Banking saga was spectacular because of its cost and length, but it was by no means the only controversial fraud case at the Old Bailey last year. In March another case, involving allegations of an accountancy fraud was abandoned after five months at an estimated cost of £750,000.

Margaret Drummond



Lord Chief Justice Lane: thinks big fraud trials place too much strain on judges and juries.

Earlier in the year the Court of Appeal overturned the conviction of Mr Harry Landy and two other defendants in the Israel British Bank case, which had been another 90-day trial

An Appeal Court judge drew attention to the problem of juries assimilating evidence in fraud trials, remarking that the original trial judge had "got lost in the trees and missed the wood" and criticised the fact that the jury had been "overloaded with facts".

Many of those involved in fraud proceedings from the police to the judges whose unhappy task it is to preside over these costly complexities, point to the jury system as a major stumbling block.

Lord Shawcross says that theoretically he would like to see many of these cases tried by a judge with expert assessors trained to follow evidence and familiar with financial matters.

"But in practice I think this would be totally unacceptable to the British people. An alternative might be the special jury system now abolished which was particularly useful for fraud trials since it could be drawn from people whose background indicated they could comprehend the evidence."

Dr Michael Levi, lecturer in criminology at University College, Cardiff, whose study of fraud, "The Phantom Capitalists", was published last month agrees that the special jury option might be more acceptable.

"The original idea of a jury in criminal cases was trial by one's peers — people acquainted with the customs of the area. Nowadays in fraud trials it is really not the case. Frankly, even I would have difficulty in following some of the evidence.

"When I wrote my book I spoke to several jurors who had sat on major fraud trials. They said they felt completely disorientated and had been asked to deal with matters they felt they were really not able to understand."

Keeping jurors awake amid a sea of documents is not the only problem with fraud prosecutions, says Dr Levi. It takes a long time from the first whiff of something burning in the kitchen to get a case into court.

The affairs of London and County Securities, the secondary bank which collapsed in the mid-1970s, took three years to investigate with a Department of Trade inquiry running alongside. The trial itself was rather like Hamlet without the Prince, since the group's founder, Mr Gerald Caplan, successfully resisted all attempts to extradite him. Extradition is a perennial problem in fraud investigations.

Attempts have been made to deal with the problem of conflicting jurisdictions which have in the past slowed down proceedings. There is now a special department to deal with matters of interest to both the Department of Trade and the Fraud Squad.

And there has been increased cooperation between the police and the DPP's office over the past 18 months since the Attorney-General Sir Michael Havers, QC, made suggestions for improving the system of prosecuting fraud.

Meanwhile 1982 is already threatening to be a vintage year for City scandals eliciting the usual chorus of complaints about self regulation not working.

Business Diary: Sad as a hatter

Is the English male wearing more hats again? Italian statistics would suggest so, for the export of hats to Britain rose last year by 8.7 per cent, to 7,146,172 from 6,573,377 in 1980. This is part of a general improvement in the popularity of Italan-made hats sales for which on a world basis rose by 19.6 per cent to more than 101 million last year, with particular success in the markets of South Africa (up 108.1 per cent), Spain (up 84.7 per cent) and Australia (up 77.2 per cent).

But statistics can be misleading, and a very different picture is given by Vittorio Vaccarino, chairman of the family firm of Borsalino, where hats are to the Italian male as a Trilby or Homberg is or was to the middle aged Englishman. The figures issued by the Government Statistics Office, he explains, are for all kinds of headgear — proper hats, cloth caps, anything for sports use, or for protection from the sun at the seaside.

For Borsalino, things are not what they were. At the turn of the century the family business was turning out 2,500,000 "Borsalinos" a year with 2,000 workers. Now a workforce of 350 produces about 200,000.

"It's a world phenomenon, this decline in hat of quality," sighs signor Vaccarino, "our rivals just need sewing machines."

In the United States, there has been a revival in sales of cowboy hats, so the firm includes these in its samples, but says Vaccarino: "I can't see them catching on here."



Bernie Cornfeld: Fund of Funds used to be his.



Ian Hay Davison: Partnership... to a point.

Count us out

Ian Hay Davison, the new chairman of the Accounting Standards Committee, is watching with interest the outcome of an accounting standards case in the U.S.

This concerns about 1,000 partners in the American end of the worldwide accounting partnership of Arthur Andersen — Hay Davison is the senior partner of the British operation.

The American partners are appealing against a ruling by a federal judge which awarded damages of about $120m against them to shareholders in Fund of Funds, which used to be part of Bernie Cornfeld's IOS empire.

This sum is about $70m. more than the Andersen US partners had in indemnity insurance cover at the time the claim was made in the 1960s. Davison like Arthur Andersen people anywhere, makes much of the worldwide unity of the partnership, but when he spoke to *Business Diary* it became clear that this unity stops short of chipping in should the American partners' appeal fail. "The idea of a worldwide partnership is a philosophical rather than a legal one," he says.

Oui ministres

It is not often that virtually all senior members of a new government agree to be questioned by representatives of the world business community on its policies, but this is what France's Socialist government will be doing at a conference to be held in Paris on February 8 and 9 under the sponsorship of the International Herald Tribune.

They will speak briefly and answer questions from up to 300 foreign businessmen gathered at the Intercontinental Hotel. The businessmen will each be paying 5,500 francs a head.

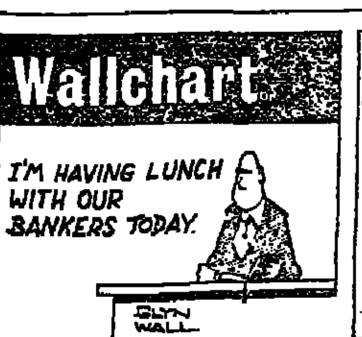
The idea for this ministerial jamboree came from Belgian publicist Bernard le Grelle, aged 30. "What gave me the idea was the conference organised by the National Journal in Washington last April when leading members of the Reagan Administration explained their policies to around 100 United States industrialists. The arrival of a Socialist government in France seemed to me just as important as the Carter/Reagan change in the United States."

When le Grelle put the idea to the International Herald Tribune publisher Lee Huebner, the response was an immediate "OK, if you can get the ministers." Le Grelle did, either by ringing them up himself or by contacting them through intermediaries such as his collaborator Francoise Boucier.

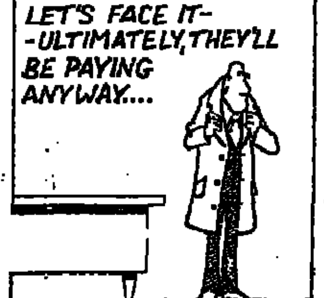
Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy was a little reluctant at first because of the reception he got at a business conference in Paris last year. But he was finally won round, and soon after a third of the French cabinet had agreed. Of the five ministers of state only Communist transport minister Charles Fiterman will not be there.

It is comforting to know that you can still get a good read for 1p. The 1946 Act nationalizing the Bank of England is still on sale — a few copies left — at Her Majesty's Stationery Office for just that princely sum, (The original price was 2d) which must make it one of the cheapest bits of reading on sale anywhere. Does this tell us something about nationalization or perhaps that the Bank of England has done a better job as guardian of the currency than we all thought?

Ross Davies







FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock Markets

Miners' vote cheers equities

The apparent reluctance by the miners to follow the advice of their executive and vote overwhelmingly to strike, sent a wave of relief through the market yesterday.

Equities advanced across the board, but turnover remained low as investors were unwilling to commit themselves until the final count has been made.

Nevertheless, the *FT* Index, unperturbed by the level of turnover, continued to rise, closing 3.1 up at 534.7, after being 3.9 higher at 10 am.

So it was again left to bid situations to make the running. An early feature was the decision by Mr Ezra Zilkha, brother of the founder of Mothercare, to sell his stake of 1.7m ordinary shares in Habitat and 2.7m convertible shares received after the reverse takeover of Mothercare. Brokers L. Messel conducted the business, which found no shortage of buyers, selling the ordinary at 112p and the convertible at 87p and raising around £4.5m for their client.

It looks as though Mr Zilkha could have got a better price, with the ordinary closing 5p up at 118p and the convertible 3p up at 90p.

The markets is now waiting for Mr Salim Zilkha to unload his stake of some 3.5m ordinary shares — his shae of the recent merger with Habitat — for which he received a part cash, part share payoff.

The latest casualty of the recession in the fashion and textile market is Radley Fasions, where the shares were suspended yesterday at 19p. The board has decided to ask Lloyds Bank and the ICFC to appoint a receiver and manager to sort out the group's affairs. Last year the group made a pre-tax loss of £34,000 and at the half-way stage this year saw profits plummet from £234,000 to £5,000.

The gilt markets recovered from a weak start after the latest gloomy US money supply figures which led to speculation that interest rates there may soom be again under pressure. But buyers refused to be put off and persistent buying, aided by a dearer pound and cheaper domestic money market rates, saw prices rise by up to £1½ on longs and £½ in shorts.

Blue chips also continued to benefit from stock shortages and the recovery in the gilt market. Facourites such as ICI, up 2p at 318p, and Glaxo, unchanged at 454p, were wanted.

Favourable weekend comment lifted BAT Industries 17p to 373p as adverse mention clipped 7p from Fisons at 156p.

Shares of ACC touched 70p at one stage. It is still waiting for the roposed bid terms from Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Motor, unchanged at 33p. Mr Robert Holmes a'Court's Bell Corporation's bid of £36m has already been agreed, but is likely to run into trouble from several of the major institutional shareholders.

Suggestions of a full bid for Eagle Star from the German Allianz Insurance group had the price upn 13p to 321p. Last year Allianz bought 29 per cent of the company in a dawn raid at 295p, and has long been tipped to come back and bid for the rest.

Another old takeover favourite Scottish & Newcastle rose 1½p to 56p as a line of 250,000p went through the market. The institutions have been keen to pick up stock recently ahead of the shares going ex-div later this account.

In breweries Devenish, the West country brewer, leapt 40p in a thin market to 370p. In a recent broker circular analyst Mr Colin Mitchell of Buckmaster Moore revalued the group's property interest to 994p a share. Whitbread holds a 25 per cent stake.

Meanwhile, South African Breweries fell 5p to 198p on acquisition news.

In banks, Royal Bank of Scotland fell a further 17p to 109p after Friday's veto of the bids from Hongkong & Shanghai and Standard Chartered. However, the sale of its Hongkong interests for £69.6m helped the price 8p to 211p.

In electricals Racal fell 9p at 376p after recent figures, while Henry Wigfall, which unveiled losses last week, was bought for a recovery, closing 9p up at 133p. Many dealers thought that last week's selling had been overdone.

Better than expected trading news added 4p to Stroud Riley at 46p, and 23p to Western Board Mills at 171p.

Equity turnover on January 15 was £100.73m (10,912 bargains). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph were: Royal Bank of Scotland, Bank of Scotland, Western Board Mills, Racal, Ultramar, Eagle Star and Dowty Group.

Traditional options saw calls in Town & City at 3p, Elsburg at 17p, Double Eagle at 12p, Royal Bank of Scotland at 15p, British Land at 6p and Premier at 5½p. Doubles were completed in ICI at 33p and Consolidated Gold at 55p.

Chase up sharply

Chase Manhattan Corp. has announced a sharp recovery in its net operating profit in the last quarter. The rise is from $2.12 a share to $4.40.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Ailsa Inv (I)	—(—)	0.58(0.45)	0.72(1.09)	0.7(1.0)	26-2	1.58d(2.05)
Gold Fields Prop (I)	—(—)	2.03a(2.3a)	15.4b(16.3b)	—(—)	—	—(14b)
Great Nthn Inv (F)	—(—)	4.97(5.28)	6.4(6.87)	4.6(4.6)	18-3	6.6(5.6)
Peerless(I)	14.9(14.5)	1.07(0.9)	5.4(5.4)	2.1(2.1)	5-3	—(6.3)
Restmor (I)	5.2(5.84)	0.59(0.61)	7.02(7.05)	0.5(0.5)	13-3	—(5.0)
Stroud Riley (I)	4.37(3.58)	0.52(0.23)	—(—)	0.75(0.5c)	26-2	—(1.5c)
Western Board (I)	2(1.81)	0.86(0.75)	7.8(7.3)	2(1.7)	5-3	—(6.9)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *a* S. African rands; *b* S. African cents; *c* Adjusted for scrip issue; *d* Forecast.

Stroud Riley doubles profit

By Drew Johnston

Against the trend towards contraction in the textile industry, Bradford-based Stroud Riley Drummond, a weaver of high quality cloths, has more than doubled its pretax profits from £237,000 to £528,000 for the half year to September. Taking out a £201,000 profit from sale of the 27 per cent holding in Hield Brothers, another Bradford worsted company which was the subject of a Stroud takeover bid last July, the improvement in trading profit was 40 per cent. Sales were up 22 per cent from £3.5m to £4.3m.

The dividend has been increased from 0.71p gross to 1p gross. This boosted the share price 4p to 46p, which values the company at around £3.25m.

Market conditions continue to be very difficult, according to Mr Roy Stroud, the chairman, but a full order book and triple shift working means the prospects for the rest of the financial year are encouraging.

Last year the company turned in full-year profits of £609,000 on sales of £7.83m.

Mr Richard Stroud, managing director, said the group had returned to profitability because it was an efficient producer. Swingeing cuts in manpower and overheads two years ago had paid off, and the group was now hiring more people, he said.

The spinning operation was abandoned in 1980 and the weaving business was moved onto a single site.

As a result, the group now receives rental income from two large and six small businesses located on company property now known as the Drummond Trading Estate.

The group has stemmed the losses in J. Haywood, the Huddersfield based worsted manufacturer bought from Tootal for £520,000 cash last September, Mr Stroud said. Haywood, which is being bought over 12 months, recorded losses of £220,000 for the year to January 1981.

The Stroud directors believe the Haywood operation will contribute a profit in the results for the full year.

Results steady at Restmor

Restmor, the pram and baby carriage group which sells around half its output to Mothercare, is doing better than the troubled chain now merging with Mr Terence Conran's Habitat. Mothercare's latest half-time profits showed a fall of 20 per cent, but Restmor held its own turnover drop in the six months to last October to 10 per cent at £5.2m, while pretax profits fell by less than 3 per cent to £589,000.

The interim dividend is 0.72p gross for the third year running. Earnings a share were all but maintained at 7.02p.

Restmor suffers from recession and a thriving second-hand market in prams and pushchairs. But it reports that business with Mothercare has held up well compared with that chain's experience in clothing. The money fall of 10 per cent in sales, however, compares with price increases of up to 10 per cent as well.

Mettoy resignation

Mr Alfred Shepperd, chairman of the Wellcome Foundation, has resigned as chairman of Mettoy, the loss-making toy manufacturer, because of the increasing demands on his time made by the foundation.

Ailsa Trust tops £570,000 in first half

Ailsa Investment Trust, which was restructured with a £13.5m injection of new capital last September, reports increased earnings for the half-year to November. Pretax profits rose from £453,000 to £577,000, despite a £86,000 loss from the trust's subsidiary companies.

A half-year dividend of 1p gross has been declared and a final dividend of 1.25p gross is forecast.

Net asset value per ordinary share was 53.8p compared with 52.4p last year. At December 31, the asset value was 54.6p. At the half-year, 47 per cent of the trust's assets were in the United Kingdom.

Western Board

Western Board Mills, the South Wales-based waste paper recycling group, raised pretax profits from £758,000 to £864,000 in the half-year to September 30 on turnover up from £1.81m to £2m.

Mr Howard Vogel, the chairman, says that increased demand up to September 1981 has continued since that date and an increase in profits for the full year seems likely.

LMS in bid

London & Manchester Securities is making a 375p per share cash offer for the shares of the Manchester Stock Exchange Buildings. This follows last Friday's acquisition by LMS of 36.6 per cent of the shares, boosting its total stake to 37.14 per cent.

The board of Manchester Stock Exchange is advising shareholders not to dispose of their shares

Commodities

COPPER was steadier — Afternoon — Higher grade cash, £853-53.50: three months, £883-83 50 Sales 6,750 tonnes Cash standard cathodes. £852-53: three months. £880-81 Sales: Nil tonnes Morning. — Higher grade cash, £850-50.50. three months. £880-81 Settlement £850-50. Sales. 12,825 tonnes Cash standard cathodes. £848-50: three months. £876-77 Settlement. £850 Sales. 675 tonnes.

TIN was easier. — Afternoon. — Standard cash. £8,480-95 a tonne. three months,£7,960-70 Sales. 750 tonnes. High grade, cash, £8,480-95, three months. £7,960-70 Sales, nil tonnes. Mouning — Standard cash. £8,560-70. three months. £8,020-30 Settlement. £8,570 Sales. 715 tonnes High grade, cash. £8 560-70. three months. £8,020-30 Settlement. £8,570. Sales. nil tonnes Singapore tin ex-works. $M33 80 a picul

LEAD was steadier—Afternoon. Cash £328.29 per tonne; three months £341.42. Sales. 6,325 tonnes Morning Cash £325-25 50. three months £338-38.50. Settlement £325.50. Sales. 7,750 tonnes.

ZINC was firmer.—Afternoon. Cash £422-24 per tonne; three months £428.28.50. Sales. 4,500 tonnes Morning Cash £409.25-409.50: three months £420-20.50. Settlement, £409.50. Sales, 2,950 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £192 ($360) a troy ounce.

SILVER was quiet.— Bullion market (fixing levels).— Spot 416 95p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 779): three months 431.95p (806.10c): six months. 448p (835.70c): one year 478p (892.80c) London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash 415.5-16.5p: three months 431.32p. Sales. 25 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning —Cash 414.5-15.0p: three months, 429.5-30.0p Settlements, 415.0p. Sales,76 lots.

ALUMINIUM was quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash. £589.50-90.50 per tonne: three months £615-15.50 Sales. 1,125 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £591.50-92.00: three months £616-16.50. Settlement, £592 Sales. 2,975 tonnes.

NICKEL was quiet. — Afternoon. — Cash £2975-80 per tonne, three months £3035-45. Sales. 258 tonnes Morning. — Cash £2980-85: three months £3030-35. Settlement. £2985. Sales. 282 tonnes

RUBBER (pence per kilo). — Feb 50.20-50.70: Mch 54.10-51 70: Apl/June 53.50-53.60: Jly/Sep 57-57.10: Oct/Dec 60.20-60.30: Jan/Mch 63.30-63.50: Apl/Jne 66.30-66.50: Jly/Sep 69.30-69.40: Oct/Dec 72.30-72.40. Sales: 48 at five tonnes; 81 at 5 tonnes.

COFFEE. — **ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): Jan 1130-1135: Mch 1139-1140: May 1122-1123: Jly 1116-1117: Sep 1111-1112: Nov 1108-1109: Jan 1103-1108. Sales 1,928 lots including seven options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton). — Mch 1207-1208: May 1200-1201: Jly 1207-1208: Sep 1213-1216. Dec 1223-1224: Mch 1228-1233. May 1235-1243. Sales: 2,282 lots including 10 options. ICCO prices: daily (Jan 15) 98.04c; indicator price (Jan 18) 5-day average 99.32c. (US cents per lb.).

SUGAR — The London daily price of "raws was £4 lower at £162: the "whites" price was £1 lower at £172. Futures (£ per tonne: March 175.05-175.20: May 177.90-178.00. Aug 181 00-181.10: Oct 184.85-185.00: Jan 185.75-187.00 March 191.05-192.00: May 192.00-196. Sales:2733 lots ISA prices (Jan 18): daily 12.88 c; 15-day average 12.86c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne) - Feb 140 -141.50, April 137 60-137.70: June 135.20-135 50: Aug 135.50-136.50. Oct 136-138 50: Dec 136-140: Feb 138-142: Sales: 107 lots

WOOL. — NZ Crossbreds No 2 contract (cents per kilo). Jan 370-374. March 368-371. May 376-377. Aug 387-389, Oct 389-391: Dec 393-397: Jan 397-400. March 406-410: May 412-418 Sales 119 lots

GRAIN. (The Baltic). — **WHEAT.** — Canadian western red spring unquoted US dark northern spring No 2. 14 per cent. Feb £121 25: Mar £122.85 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter 13½ per cent mid-Jan-/mid-Sfeb £118.75 trans-shipment east coast sellers EEC unquoted English feed fob. Jan £113 50 south coast sellers.

MAIZE. — French: Jan £133 50 trans-shipment east coast sellers. South Africa white unquoted South Africa yellow: Maar £76.50 quoted. English feed fob April/June £116.50 east coast sellars. All cib UK unless stated

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin

BARLEY: Jan £106 50. March £108.80. May £112. Sept £112 90: Nov £106 75. Sales. 190 lots

WHEAT: Jan £109.65: March £112.35: May £116: July £119.05: Sept £107 35: Nov £111 05 Sales: 190 lots

Home-Grown Cereals Authority — Location ex-farm spot prices.

	Other Milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	£110	£109	£105 60
E Mids	—	£110 30	£106 90
N East	—	—	£104 90

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 18 GB Cattle 103.21 p per kg lw (-2 331): UK Sheep 194 94 p per kg est d c w (-2.78). GB Pigs 80.09 p per kg lw (+0 32) England and Wales: Cattle nos up 100.8 per cent.ave price 102 83p (-3.18). Sheep nos up 121.2 per cent ave.price 195.78p (-4.71). Pig nos up 39 1 per cent.ave price 80.13p (+0.36) Scotland: Cattle nos up 31 5 per cent.ave price 105 31p (+1.52): Sheep nos up 66.6 per cent.ave.price 193.02p (-0 92): Pig nos up 87 0 per cent.ave.price 77.01p (-2.01). **INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE** ($ US per tonne).-Jan 321 00-320.00: Feb 315.75-315 50. Mar 307.25-307.00: Apr 297 25-297.00: May 293.75-293 00. Jun 292.50-291.00. Jul 296 00-290.00: Aug 300 00-290 00: Sep 305.00-290.00. Sales:1,523 lots of 100 tonnes each

POTATOES (Grafta).—Feb £94 60. April £114.50: Nov £67 90 Sales 472 lots of 40 tonnes each

TEA.—Very strong demand was seen for the 25,702 packages on offer at the weekly auction. After a hesitant start, all descriptions met keen competition and were generally 3p to 5p higher with much improved demand for medium ctc's. Improved demand was also noted for Ceylon teas at irregularly firmer rates, prices advancing an average 2p to 4p, particularly for bop fannings and dust.

LME metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official arehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes except silver) are: Copper fell 1,000 to 127,825; Tin fell 1,980 to 14,310; Lead rose 1,975 to 54,925; Zinc fell 2,300 to 70,825; Aluminium rose 4,425i to 164,400; Nickel fell 348 to 2,340; Silver rose 310,000 to 32,790,000 troy ounces.—Reuter.

Sales at Ciba-Geigy climb 14pc for year

Group sales for Ciba-Geigy the Swiss chemical producer, totaled 13,600m Francs (£3,965m) in 1981, up 14 per cent from 1980.

The group also said that profits had improved because of improved performance and more favourable foreign exchange rates, but did not give any figures.

Agrichemicals registered the sharpest growth with a rise of 27 per cent in sales, followed by growth of 18 per cent for pharmaceuticals and 11 per cent for plastics and additives. Among the poorer performers, dyes and chemicals grew by 8 per cent and electronic gear by 7 per cent.

Hongkong Land

Hongkong Land sees no difficulty in achieving the HK$1,400m (about £127m) net profit, before extraordinaries, it has forecast for 1981, the managing director, Mr Trevor Bedford, said. This compares with 1980's HK$,651.5m.

He said Hongkong Land will remain essentially a Hong Kong-based company, with a 98 per cent of its profits and assets generated from there.

S A Breweries

South African Breweries is bidding around R25m (£13.8m) to acquire Scotts Stores, a wholesaler and retailer of shoes and clothing.

SAB said it is offering 850 cents a share, against Friday's market price of 550 cents, it is offering 100 cents for the redeemable preference shares and 1,150 cents for the convertible debentures, and has already received acceptances from 75 per cent of the ordinary shareholders.

It said the acquisition of Scotts, which produced pretax profit of R3.23m in the six months to August 31, will have no material effect on SAB's earnings or assets.

International

Trio-Kenwood

Trio-Kenwood Corp does not plan to pay a dividend for the business year to May 20, because of expected deficits after attempts to reduce excessive stocks, held mainly in the US.

Current profit in the first half-year period to last November was expected to fall 43 per cent to 430 yen (£1m) from 755m a year earlier, with a seven per cent drop in export sales.

Matsushita record

Matsushita Electric Industrial Co of Japan said yesterday that brisk sales of video tape recorders, especially overseas, led to record after-tax profits and sales for the year to last November 20.

After-tax profits rose by 14.3 per cent to 83,600m yen (£200m) on sales of 2,346m yen, up 16.4 per cent.

North Kalgurli

In proceedings instituted in the supreme court of Western Australia, Mr Justice Kennedy granted an interim injunction restraining Australian Placer NL from proceeding with its partial takeover of North Kalgurli Mines.

هكذا من الأصل

Rugby Union



Scott : training hard

Scott could be fit to face France

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Nothing happened in the Calcutta Cup match at Murrayfield last Saturday to dissuade John Scott from getting back into rugby as soon as be can, and making a pitch for his old place as England's No 8 before the championship is completed.

After operations to both ankles, following the England tour of Argentina last summer, he has been training hard for the past month without any problems at all. He had wanted to get a match —"for anybody who would have had me"—last weekend, but the severe weather put paid to that idea. Now he hopes to play for Cardiff Athletic, his club's second team, this Saturday if he can persuade the Cardiff selectors. Failing that, he is not likely to go short of offers from other sources.

Even Scott in his present position has to agree that he needs to train, though this was not apparent in Argentina, where, because of his ankle troubles and other ailments, he hardly practised at all yet did a remarkably effective job from match to match. When asked how long he thinks he needs to become a serious contender for England again, he says: "I'll be able to give an answer after my first game".

If all goes well, England's selectors will be inspecting his form for Cardiff once he is back in the first team groove. It seems impossible he can be match-hardened in time for England's second international, against Ireland at Twickenham on February 6, but he ought to be ready for their third one, in Paris, a fortnight later.

With the benefit of hindsight, the selectors may have come to the conclusion that Bob Hesford, their No 8 against Scotland, was not 100 per cent fit after his ankle injury, and thus was unable to do himself justice. Speed is not one of Hesford's most shining assets—any more than it is Scott's—but Hesford was made to look slow last Saturday, and I suspect that uneasiness about his ankle had an influence on the rest of his performance.

As a disappointed Bill Beaumont observed last Saturday evening, England must be content to settle for the championship with seven points. The same applies to Scotland, who last won it outright in 1938, but they have two away games to play, in Dublin and Cardiff. The England team to play Ireland will be announced a week today.

Motor rallying

Rohrl opens up one-minute lead

The British-based Rothmans rally team filled the top two places in the Monte Carlo Rally as cars completed the first of three sections yesterday.

Walter Rohrl, winner of the rally and world champion in 1980, held a one-minute lead over his Rothmans Opel team-mate, Jochi Kleint, after nine stages.

POSITIONS (after nine stages): 1, W Rohrl and C Geistdorfer (WG) Opel Ascona 1hr 58min 52sec; 2, J Kleint and G Wanger (WG) Opel Ascona 1:59.57; 3, G Frequelin and J-F Fauchille (France), Porsche 2:01.14; 4, M Mouton (France) and F Pons (Italy) Audi Quattro 2:01.16; 5, H Mikkola (Finland) and A Hertz (Sweden) Audi Quattro 2:03.30; 6, J-L Therier and M Vial (France) Porsche 2:03.50.

South West boy's team

The South West schoolboys' under-19 rugby team to play the Australian schoolboys at the County Ground, Exeter, next Wednesday (2.30) is:

M Newman (Millfield); C Howard (Brockworth), B Cundy (St Boniface), N Dakin (Kingswood), M Newton (St Boniface); N Devonald (Millfield), K Fitzgerald (Chosenhill); A Flanders (Plymouth College), R Tarrant (Backwell), R Williams (Penwith), P Farmer (Wellington), R Clifford (St Brendan's), P Loder (Tiverton), A Robinson (Richard Huish College), S Turner (Backwell).

Football

France persuade FA to cancel international against England

England have agreed to cancel the international match against France on March 24, after the two countries were drawn against each other in the World Cup this summer. The FA yesterday agreed to a French request to call off the game in Paris, although England's manager Ron Greenwood was in favour of it going ahead. England play France in the opening group one game in Bilbao on June 16 and Mr Greenwood will now have only five warm-up internationals before then.

Ted Croker, the FA Secretary, said: "In view of the current fixture congestion, it is extremely unlikely that an alternative senior international will be organized. This will provide the Football League clubs with an extra week in which to clear some of their backlog of fixtures.

"For England the vital part of the World Cup build-up will be the period after the FA Cup final when games against Holland, Scotland and Finland will take place. The FA considers that it is essential to keep this period free of outstanding Football League fixtures so that all of the players figuring in Ron Greenwood's plans will be available to him."

The under-21 fixture for that week has already been cancelled because of European Championship commitments, and Mr Croker said that England agreed with France that to go ahead with the game would be "inappropriate under the circumstances of the draw for the World Cup finals."

France had strong reasons for not wanting the game to be played, bearing in mind their fate in 1978; they went ahead with a friendly against Italy, despite being drawn in their group in the World Cup in Argentina—and lost both games.

The FA's hope that League clubs clear outstanding fixtures in that week, is not very practical. Scotland have a friendly against the Netherlands in Glasgow on March 24, Wales go to Spain to help the host country prepare and Northern Ireland are arranging details of a friendly that night. Those countries will bring pressure to bear on the Football League to have their players released for international duty. If England change their mind about rearranging a game that week, they could do worse than consider an interesting offer from Spain.

Athletic Bilbao, looking for a side to help them celebrate the reopening of the San Males Stadium where England play their opening three games in Spain, offered England the chance of an early taste of Spanish conditions. But Mr Greenwood said: "There is an unwritten rule that England do not play club sides."

Danger of New Zealand facing boycott recedes

By Norman Fox

New Zealand's last-minute qualification for the World Cup finals in Spain has brought no immediate threats of boycotts from African countries nor from the Soviet Union who are drawn in the same group. Charles Dempsey, New Zealand's World Cup director, said in London yesterday that he had encountered no political interference in Spain at the weekend.

Mr Dempsey, a Scot who emigrated to New Zealand 30 years ago, counts himself among those who believe that sport and politics can be kept apart. In the case of the World Cup it seems he may be satisfied.

He said: "I believe that FIFA is stronger than the United Nations and the African Sports Council. I can't understand why people in Africa get upset." Whether the Soviet Union can resist making some form of protest about playing against a country maintaining sporting links with South Africa remains to be seen.

As more details emerge, New Zealand's qualification for the World Cup finals become more remarkable and not a little bizarre. They travelled 64,000 miles to play their 15 games which ended in Singapore with a play-off in which they beat China and solved their financial troubles.

After scoring five goals against Saudi Arabia in order to force the play-off, they suddenly became almost as popular in New Zealand as their rugby playing colleagues. Indeed, Mr Dempsey said rugby clubs help finance their matches.

The play-off in Singapore was more than the New Zealand FA could afford. The Sports Federation donated $NZ30,000 towards the $NZ80,000 required. Mr Dempsey launched a public appeal one Monday and by Wednesday he had raised $NZ44,000.

New Zealand are so surprised to find themselves in the finals that they have made no plans for "warm-up" matches. Mr Dempsey said: "A year ago no one in their right mind would have thought that we would be represented in Spain."

He admitted that there was only a tentative chance of playing a game against Hungary but he hoped British clubs would visit New Zealand before the World Cup. With the present fixture chaos this seems unlikely.

New Zealand's team includes several players who have failed to make the grade in the Football League and have gained a reputation for aggressive play. Mr Dempsey could not quite remember the number of yellow cards they received in the Asia and Oceania qualifying rounds ("about 10 or 12 in 15 games"), but were delighted to discover in Spain that FIFA had granted an amnesty to transgressors from all countries.

Although he admitted that he would not put money on New Zealand beating Brazil or the Soviet Union in Group Six, he confidently expected Kuwait to provide England with a tough match in Group Four. He said Kuwait were outstanding against his team.

Liverpool's scalp in danger

Steve Nicol could make his first appearance for Liverpool, after three months on the sidelines. The European champions hope to prevent Barnsley taking a fourth scalp from the first division in the League Cup.

Nicol, a Scottish under-21 full-back, was signed from Ayr United for £300,000 last October. He has been called into the squad along with Sammy Lee.

Bob Paisley, the Liverpool manager, is worried by the form shown in Saturday's narrow win against Wolverhampton Wanderers. He cannot relish the trip to Oakwell for today's quarter-final replay.

Barnsley beat Swansea in the second round, thrashed Brighton 4—1 in the third and eliminated Manchester City in the fourth round. Then they achieved a 0—0 draw at Anfield, and will be strengthened by the return of their attacking midfield player, Glavin.

● The England captain, Kevin Keegan, hopes to be given the chance to make his comeback for Southampton at Everton tonight. He has been out for nearly three weeks with a sprained ankle.

Southampton's title challenge has slipped a little and, with another tough game against Arsenal on Saturday, their manager, Lawrie McMenemy, may not risk Keegan.

Everton will give Adrian Heath, their record £700,000 signing from Stoke, his first game.

● A protest by Newcastle United has led to a transfer ban on Bristol City by the Football League until a debt is settled. City owe Newcastle £100,000 of the £150,000 fee for Harford, a striker signed in July. They made a down payment of £50,000 but have been unable to keep up the instalments.

● Brian Clough, who returns to take charge of Nottingham Forest today, has confirmed an interest in Sheffield Wednesday's striker, Terry Curran.

Bundesliga leadership changes after break

The lead changed hands in the West German and Spanish leagues this weekend when the top teams faltered. Bayern Munich moved ahead at the expense of Cologne when the Bundesliga got under way after the winter break.

Two second-half goals, by Dremmler and Hoeness, brought both points for Bayern at third-from-bottom Bayer Leverkusen and Cologne held out for 81 minutes away to Borussia Dortmund. A goal by Klotz nine minutes from time earned Dortmund a 1—0 victory and pushed Cologne down to third place, two points behind Bayern. Cologne have a match in hand.

Borussia Mönchengladbach moved into second place, one point behind Bayern, by becoming the first side this season to win at Werder Bremen. Pinkall scored the only goal of the match immediately after the restart to end Bremen's unbeaten home record.

SV Hamburg were unable to take Bremen's fourth-place spot because they lost 2—1 at Eintracht Brunswick. Bastrup, their Danish international, opened the score in the 68th minute but Pahl equalized two minutes later and Worm scored Brunswick's winner six minutes from time.

Real Madrid, who won a torrid match away to their city rivals Atlético last week when 14 players were booked and three sent off, had to struggle at home to *Sevilla* but there were no incidents as they won 2—1.

The win took them a point clear of Barcelona, who drew 0—0 at Sporting Gijon. Santillana put Real ahead five minutes before half-time but Sevilla equalized one minute into the second half through Magdaleno. Real's winner did not come until 10 minutes from time, from their West German midfield player, Stielike.

Real Sociedad failed to keep up with Madrid by losing 2—1 at lowly Cadiz. Mejias and Mane put Cadiz two ahead and although Uralde pulled one back for the San Sebastian side the visitors did not look like forcing a draw. They were two points behind the leaders.

Sporting Lisbon, managed by Malcolm Allison, beat FC Porto 1—0 at home in the top-of-the-table clash to consolidate their lead in the Portuguese League at the halfway stage of the season. The win extended Sporting's lead over Benfica, who lost 2—1 at Boavista, to four points.

St Etienne were joined by Bordeaux at the top of the French first division when league football started again after the winter break in France. St Etienne, surviving terrific first-half pressure, drew 0—0 at Paris St Germain; Bordeaux, with only one dangerous attack all the match, won 1—0 at Lyon.

The newly promoted Auxerre completed the double over Monaco, who had to reshuffle in the thirty-fifth minute when their Swedish striker, Ralf Edstroem, went off injured, by winning 2—0. Both goals came from their

Today's fixtures

7.30 unless stated

LEAGUE CUP: quarter-final replay: Barnsley v Liverpool.
FIRST DIVISION: Everton v Southampton (7.45).
SECOND DIVISION: Charlton Athletic v Luton Town; Crystal Palace v Sheffield Wednesday.
THIRD DIVISION: Bristol Rovers v Chesterfield; Chester v Portsmouth; Walsall v Brentford.
FOURTH DIVISION: Bury v Hartlepool; Wigan Athletic v Peterborough United; Tranmere Rovers v Crewe.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Trophy: third round, second leg: Enfield v Dagenham.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Witney Town v Milton Keynes. Southern: Basingstoke v Waterlooville; Hounslow v Welling United.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton v Southport; Macclesfield v South Liverpool; Workington v Netherfield.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: Bolton v Blackpool (7.0); Blackburn v Burnley (7.0); Coventry v West Bromwich (7.0).
FA TROPHY: Third qualifying round replay: Addlestone v Leatherhead. First round: Aylesbury v Sutton United; Slough Town v Bath City; Tooting & Mitcham v Harlow Town; Walthamstow Avenue v Wycombe Wanderers; Woking v Barking; Stalybridge Celtic v Chorley; Marine v Scarborough; Runcorn v Stafford Rangers; Northwich Victoria v Bangor.
FA VASE: Third round: Grays Athletic v Arlesey Town (7.45); Hemel Hempstead v Rainham Town; Southall v Ruislip Manor; Three Bridges v Eastbourne United (at Eastbourne); Poulton Rovers v Odd Down; Whyteleafe v Sholing Sports.
HERTFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Third round: Hitchin Town v Bishop's Stortford.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: First round: Carshalton Athletic v Finchley.
MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: Second round: Hayes v Uxbridge; Hillingdon Borough v Wembley; Hounslow v Feltham.
WELSH CUP: Fourth round: Pontardowa Athletic v Wrexham (2.15).
SOUTH WEST COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS: Army v Wiltshire (at Aldershot).
OTHER MATCHES: Hornchurch v Millwall, Clapton v Bishop's Stortford.
RUGBY UNION: Coventry v Rugby (7.15); West Hartlepool v Gosforth (7.0); Rosslyn Park v Esher.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Barrow v Whitehaven. Second division: Swinton v Batley.

FA Trophy draw

FA Trophy second round draw: Woking or Barking v Kettering or Mossley, Slough or Bath v Buxton or Rossendale United, Wealdstone or Gloucester City v Dagenham or Hitchin Town, Stalybridge Celtic or Chorley v Frickley Athletic or Bishop Auckland, Dulwich Hamlet or Enderby Town or St Albans City v Marine or Scarborough, Kidderminster Harriers or Barrow v Ashington or Blyth Spartans, Tooting and Mitcham or Harlow Town v Aylesbury United or Sutton United, Boston United or Hyde United v Walthamstow Avenue or Wycombe Wanderers, Cheltenham Town or Epsom and Ewell v Altrincham, Bishop's Stortford v Maidstone United or Hastings United, Telford United or Burton Albion v Bedford Town or Staines Town, Runcorn or Stafford Rangers v Lancaster City or Spennymoor United, Merthyr Tydfil or Dorchester Town v Enfield, Minehead or Worcester City v Alvechurch or Croydon, Horden Colliery Welfare or Witton Albion v Hendon, Dartford or Leatherhead or Addlestone and Weybridge Town v Northwich Victoria or Bangor City. Matches to be played on February 6.

Tennis

Lendl needs five sets to subdue Gerulaitis

New York, Jan 18.—Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia, came on to the the scene just when John McEnroe was assuming an aura of invicibility and won the Grand Prix Masters tennis title by beating Vitas Gerulaitis in the final here today.

Lendl, aged 21, the world's second ranked player, climaxed a magnificent overall performance in this year's tournament. He saved a match point in the third set to win 6—7, 2—6, 7—6, 6—2, 6—4 and collect his first important title.

Coming on the heels of his third consecutive victory over McEnroe in Saturday's semi-finals, the triumph reinforced a feeling among many tennis experts that Lendl may be on the verge of overtaking the tempestuous New Yorker as the world's top player.

While Lendl overwhelmed McEnroe with ease on Saturday, he had an uphill struggle to subdue Gerulaitis, aged 27, who barely qualified for the eight-man round-robin tournament.

Gerulaitis, in the midle of a comeback after a two-year slump which saw him fall from fifth to 19th in the world rankings, gained entry into the select field of eight when Bjorn Borg declined to defend his title.

Over the first two sets of the final, he raised his game to the level it was in 1979 when he won his second Italian Open title and was runner-up to McEnroe in the United States Open and to Borg in the Masters. He served accurately, volleyed spectacularly and anticipated virtually every shot by Lendl.

In complete command, Gerulaitis looked ready to take his first Masters and end Lendl's remarkable five-game winning run when he went 2—0 up in the third set and reached match point at 6—5 in the first tie-break. But Lendl suddenly counter-attacked, finding the range with fine groundstrokes and serving fiercely to win the tiebreak 7—6.

Rarely venturing to the net, Lendl was devastating in the last two sets.

McEnroe and Peter Fleming, the top seeds, won the doubles championship for the fourth year in a row when they beat Kevin Curren and Steve Denton, 6—3, 6—3.

Miss Potter on song

Barbara Potter, of the United States, recorded one of the best wins of her young career in Cincinnati when she beat Bettina Bunge, of West Germany, 6—2, 7—5 to win the women's grand prix tournament. In the doubles final, Sue Barker, of Britain, teamed up with Ann Kiyomura of the United States to defeat the American pair Pam Shriver and Anne Smith 6—2, 7—6.

'What happened, Ivan?' The grand master of the one-liner replies: 'I won'

The coming of the iceman

Ivan Lendl is not much fun. Those who know the private man talk of his dry sense of humour and occasional boisterous outbursts. Last May, briefly free from the spotlight and the stress of competition, he was an affable if somewhat grave travelling companion during a flight from Düsseldorf to Hamburg. But Lendl is a public entertainer—and that public face is so inscrutably cool as to be almost chilling.

Sunday's final of the Masters tournament at Madison Square Garden was Lendl's thirty-sixth consecutive singles win, a highly unusual though by no means unique sequence. His ability to keep on winning says much about the man it demands remarkable qualities of mind as well as skill. Lendl's manner, game, attitude to his profession and steady progress all knit together to form a rather awful image of a tank trundling remorselessly through every obstacle. He invites such cliches as "poker-faced" and "an iron man".

On the rare occasions when it surfaces Lendl's smile is as delightfully warming as a shaft of sunshine on a wintry day. Laughter and a spirit of adventure must lurk within him somewhere but they are well hidden. Reserved rather than shy, Lendl is totally single-minded in his calculating self-discipline dedication to the task of becoming the best tennis player in the world—and then becoming better still.

There are two consequences of all this, one already obvious, the other more speculative. Lendl ruthlessly brushes aside anything he regards as irrelevant to his chosen ambition. When confronted by the "showbiz" trappings of professional tennis he can be aloof, even supercilious. At press conferences his shrewd mind and quick wits tend to breed laconic, faintly mocking one-liners. No player since Tom Okker has been so adept at the terse straight-faced response to daft or convoluted questions.

"What happened, Ivan?"

"I won".

Lendl sees himself as a tennis player, not an entertainer. A gravity that belies his 21 years has to some extent been temperd by his association with the charming, worldly-wise Wojtek Fibak. Some of Fibak's social graces have rubbed off. But Lendl remains a young man finding his feet among the jet set of the international circuit—seeing through the parasites and the hypocrisy and reluctant to admit that, sooner or later, he must learn to live with them.

He does his act as well as he can, does it with more decorum than a few of his seniors, and would like his "showbiz" responsibilities to end there. If Lendl was a more conventional type of entertainer the door of his dressing-room would be locked on the inside.

Lendl is more of a Bjorn Borg than a John McEnroe or a Jimmy Connors. The two Europeans tend to be too cold, the two Americans too warm. Whatever happened to the temperaments in between as exemplified by such champions as Manuel Santana, Roy Emerson, John Newcombe and Arthur Ashe?

Lendl : is inscrutable even in victory

The interesting thing about Lendl, when we add all his qualities together and examine the total, is that he could not only reach the top but stay there longer than a Connors or a McEnroe. The man's appetite for work and improvement seem to be insatiable. The tank will keep trundling along as long as there is any locomotive power left in it.

Unless memory lies, the ruthless maxim, "to rest is not to conquer", is buried somewhere in mountaineering lore. Lendl thinks that way. If perched on the top of Everest he would ask: "What do we climb next?" He has been climbing all his life.

Lendl's home is Ostrava, an industrial city about 12 miles from the Polish frontier. His parents were among Czechoslovakia's leading players and young Ivan firmly advanced through the various age groups, always emerging as national champion.

In 1978 he was the best junior in the world and made his Davis Cup debut at Eastbourne. Out of his depth on grass, he was beaten in straight sets by Christopher Mottram and Mark Cox. The bony, somewhat cadaverous youth of those days is now 6 ft 2 in and a muscular 12 st 2 lb or so. At the end of 1978 he already ranked seventy-fourth in the world. His subsequent year-end rankings have been twentieth, sixth and now third. The tank image keeps recurring.

Just as Borg has drawn a blank on the hard courts of Flushing Meadow and Connors and McEnroe have drawn blanks on the slow shale of Paris, Lendl may draw a blank on the grass of Wimbledon. His service and volley have become formidable but he still relies largely on the heaviest ground strokes in tennis and is at his best on shale or a medium-paced indoor surface with a consistent bounce.

Lendl is a "percentage" player whose unwavering respect for the odds raises echoes of Jack Kramer. Like McEnroe he could also restore respect for the classic conventions of technique at a time when the two-handed backhand has become fashionable. Pencil in Lendl as a French champion and probably a United States champion. Put a question mark against Wimbledon. But put nothing beyond him. One day he may even show us the man behind the mask.

Rex Bellamy

Skiing

Miss Flanders returns with a victory

Badgastein, Jan 18.—Holly Flanders, of the United States, injured a month ago, in Saalbach, came back to score her first World Cup victory today by winning a downhill from the Austrians Lea Sölkner and Sylvia Eder, a 16-year-old. Miss Flanders had a previous best of third place at Pfronten, West Germany, a year ago. But today she flashed down a perilously icy track, which measured 3,016 metres and dropped 700 metres, in 1 min 57.65 sec.

Irene Epple, of West Germany, was fourth and extended her lead in the overall standings. She has 229 points to 215 for Erika Hess of Switzerland. Ironically for Miss Flanders, today's race replaced one cancelled last month at Pfronten and she had given some indication that the course here suited her by achieving the fourth best training time.

Miss Sölkner, the 1978 world slalom champion who has developed a taste for downhill this season, with a seventh and fourth place before today, was 0.29 sec behind Miss Flanders. Miss Sölkner said she was surprised that Doris de Agostini, of Switzerland, who dominated training and was everyone's favourite today, could manage only fifteenth place, 1.75 sec off the pace.

RESULTS: 1, H Flanders (US) 1 min 57.65 sec; 2, L Sölkner (Austria) 1:57.94; 3, S Eder (Austria) 1:57.95; 4, I Epple (WG) 1:58.13; 5, T Tjoldstad (Norway) and E Chaud (France) 1:58.18.
OVERALL: 1, G Sorensen (Canada) 66 pts; 2, M-C Gros-Gaudenier (France) and Epple 65; 4, Sölkner 53; 5, D Agostini (Switzerland) 51; 6, Flanders 44.
WORLD CUP: 1, Epple 229 pts; 2, E Hess (Switzerland) 215; 3, C Cooper (US) 99; 4, Sölkner 92; 5, P Pelen (France) 87; 6, C Nelson (US) 84.—Reuter.

Basketball

Clubs move into new era with TV marketing deal

By Nicholas Harling

First division clubs will no longer be individually sponsored from next season now that a new marketing company, which has been formed to protect their interests, will reveal the details of a television deal within the next few days.

With the assistance of West and Nally, the public relations consultants, Basketball Marketing Limited will sell the sport as an exclusive limited package. A top game every week will receive up to an hour's viewing time on a specified night.

Individual team sponsorship will be eliminated, but the first division clubs, who along with the English Basketball Association have signed their rights to a company, should in return benefit far more from being marketed. Teams from grassroots level to the upper strata should also have guaranteed security under the new agreement, which has taken eleven months of negotiations.

☐ Crystal Palace, who will fail to qualify for the semi-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup if they lose tomorrow's home tie with Cibona Zagreb in their quarter-final pool, also came within six points of handing the League championship to Solent Stars on Saturday.

Although Palace lost 100-93, they might ultimately emerge victorious fro mthat defeat. For succumbing by less than 12 points to the team they beat by that margin at home in October, Palace assured themselves of their sixth title if they complete the rest o ftheir programme without losing another match.

It sounds complicated but both the leading clubs have now lost just once—to each other—and the rules decree that in such events the results of the matches between them are taken into account at the end of the season.

So it was that in the final seconds of a compelling encounter that there was the rare sight of the losing team, Palace, wasting time so as to deny Solent the possessoin they need to stretch their winning margin. All the experience Palace had gained in their years of Continental competition served them in useful stead in those final 44 agonizing sceonds after Philp (20 points) had taken Solent's lead to 10 points.

A free throw by the rejuvenated Jeremich (31) reduced Palace's deficit to nine but Burns, who had just come on for the first time, increased the gap to 11 points before Byrd (20) sank the next four points for a relieved Palace. Johnson (31) was Solent's top scorer but Pemberton (22, who fouled out with over three minutes to go, was once again the most effective player on the court.

Palace's task against the Yugoslavs will be no less difficult. Zagreb, who beat them by five points last month, still have half the players who helped their country take the Olympic gold medal last year.

Although the other first division gabes at the weekend paled by comparison with the one at Eastleigh, Sunderland did collect two victories. Their 110—87 defeat of Liverpool was expected but less so was their 88—84 success against John Carr Doncaster.

Table tennis

John Hilton not competing in Norwich Union

By a Special Correspondent

European champion John Hilton's alienation from the English table tennis scene this season deepened with yesterday's announcement that he is not competing in the Norwich Union English championships at Basingstoke from February 18 to 20. Hilton has already lost his England place and an English ranking since moving to live in Germany last September.

Hilton's commitments with ATSV Saarbrucken prevent him from taking part, and while he will be disappointed at not having the chance to emulate last year's achievement when he finished a good runner-up to the four-time champion, Desmond Douglas, there are compensations for him.

He believes that with a more composed build-up to the defence of his European title in April he may yet prove himself a good champion.

Last year's other runner-up Carole Knight once again finds herself unseeded. She has been national champion twice yet her current ranking of five means automatic omission from the four seeding places. It also means that Alison Gordon, the Berkshire teenager she squeezed out of a place in the European championships squad, gets preference this time at number three. Jill Hammersley, who broke the record of seven titles last time, is the top seed.

MEN: 1, D Douglas (Warwickshire); 2, P Day (Cambridgeshire); 3, D Johnson (Warwickshire); 4, G Sandley (Middlesex); 5, D Parker (Lancashire); 6, K Jackson (Essex); 7, N Eckersley (Cheshire); 8, S Andrew (Essex). WOMEN: 1, Mrs J Hammersley (Buckinghamshire); 2, Miss K Witt (Berkshire); 3, Miss A Gordon (Berkshire); 4, Mrs L Jarvis (Cleveland).

Ice hockey

Wasps wing Flyers

By Robert Pryce

After some delay Durham Wasps became the first team to win through to the playoff for the British championship at the end of the season when they beat Fife Flyers 9—4 on Sunday. The start of the game was held up because of a clash of colours. Then the clubs had to telephone the Northern Association to determine for which trophy they were competing.

Even then it was not until the last period that Durham took control, scoring five unanswered goals. Ivor Bennett finished with three goals and three assists and Paul Smith added two goals and five assists.

"We threw it away again", Ake Alm, Fife's Swedish player-coach, said. "Our wingers were too slow to take their wingers out. And we're not strong enough in defence."

It was not a good weekend for Fife. On Saturday they went down 9—7 at home to Murrayfield Racers. Aided by three goals from Jim Lynch, they pulled back from 4—0 down only to fall to two spectacular solo goals from Chris Kelland in the last period.

Murrayfield face Dundee Rockets next month to determine one of the other three playoff places. The two clubs head the Northern League, though Dundee need only two more points to claim the title after their 9—4 win in Whitley Bay on Sunday. Canadians Roy Halpin and Kevin O'Neill scored three goals each but Mike Ward, the Dundee netminder, earned most of the praise by holding Whitley scoreless—despite four breakaways—in the first period.

Billingham Bombers beat Sunderland's Crowtree Chiefs 9—2 in the weekend's only English National League game. Bruce Hubbard, their Canadian centre, scored three goals.

On a weekend of prolific marksmanship even this feat was surpassed. Another Canadian centre, Gary Stefan, of Streatham Redskins, scored a total of 12 goals—four at Solihull on Saturday and eight past Southampton's newly signed netminder, Greg Vasicek, on Sunday.

Other four-goal scorers at the weekend were Glen Skidmore (Solihull Barons), Brian Sims (Blackpool Seagulls), Tim Peacock and Randy McClinchey (Nottingham Panthers). Nottingham were 3—2 down after 15 minutes to an Avon Arrows side rent by an internal dispute but recovered to win 17—3.

RESULTS: Northern League: Ayr 6, Billingham 8; Whitley 4, Dundee 9. Icy Smith Cup: Durham 9, Fife 4. Scottish League: Fife 7, Murrayfield 9; Murrayfield 6, Glasgow 3. English National League: Billingham 9, Crowtree 2. English League North: Blackpool 12, Deeside 3. English League South: Nottingham 17, Avon 3; Solihull 1, Streatham 8; Streatham 17, Southampton 2. Ben Truman Cup: Avon 4, Solihull 7.

NORTHERN LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Murrayfield	14	9	1	4	111	56	19
Dundee	10	9	0	1	79	36	18
Fife	13	8	0	6	79	83	16
Durham	11	6	0	5	65	69	12
Glasgow	11	5	1	5	62	58	11
Billingham	13	4	1	8	68	96	9
Whitley	9	2	0	7	43	63	4
Ayr	10	1	1	8	37	80	3

ENGLISH LEAGUE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottingham	10	9	0	1	114	29	18
Streatham	8	8	0	0	102	11	16
Solihull	10	7	0	3	36	31	14
Richmond	9	4	1	4	24	35	9
Avon	9	3	1	5	29	51	7
Altrincham	9	3	0	6	44	50	6
Southampton	8	3	0	5	22	89	6
Oxford Univ.	8	0	0	8	16	47	0
Cambridge Univ.	5	0	0	5	22	89	0

TOUR MATCHES: Briancon 23, Oxford University 4; Viembel 11, Oxford University 7; Courchevel 5, Oxford University 6; Lausen (Basle) 15, Oxford University 3.

For the record

Tennis

KING'S CUP: Netherlands 1, Sweden 2; Ireland 3, Portugal 0; Belgium 3, Norway 0; Hungary 2, Monaco 1.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Washington Bullets 96, Atlanta Hawks 78; New Jersey Nets 105, Philadelphia 76ers 97; Los Angeles Lakers 109, Kansas City Kings 97; Indiana Pacers 116 Chicago Bulls 105; Seattle Supersonics 122, Golden State Warriors 97; Detroit Pistons 108, Milwaukee Bucks 103; Denver Nuggets 138, San Diego Clippers 131.

Table tennis

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier Division: Omega 4, Hasse Soham 4; Larkhall 4, Mayfair Wallcoverings 4; Sealink Ormesby 7, Unity 1; Ellenborough 6, Bristol and West 2. Second division south: Landsdown Medway 2, Dolphins 6; Dunlop of Birmingham 5, Generations 3; Graham Spicer 2, Larkhall II 6. Second division north: Grove 8, Siv Durham 0; MBS St Neots 5, Salford 3; March 2, Sealink Ormesby 6.

Ice hockey

Wales Conference

PATRICK DIVISION

	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Philadelphia F	28	15	1	184	161	57
NY Islanders	25	12	5	185	137	56
NY Rangers	20	18	6	162	170	46
Pittsburgh P	19	19	7	173	177	45
Washington C	12	26	7	168	191	31

ADAMS DIVISION

	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Buffalo Sabres	27	11	8	180	138	62
Boston Bruins	26	13	5	188	168	58
Montreal C	22	11	11	202	132	55
Quebec N	25	16	5	215	185	55
Hartford W	10	24	10	147	198	30

Campbell Conference

NORRIS DIVISION

	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Minnesota N S	17	14	14	184	157	48
St Louis Blues	21	20	4	171	180	46
Chicago B H	17	19	9	198	202	43
Winnipeg Jets	16	21	10	179	209	42
Toronto M L	14	20	11	189	205	39
Detroit Red W	13	25	8	154	191	34

SMYTHE DIVISION

	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Edmonton O	27	12	9	259	191	63
Calgary Flames	17	20	10	186	207	44
Vancouver C	15	22	10	160	171	40
Los Angeles K	13	26	6	178	214	32
Colorado R	10	30	6	128	210	26

Cycling

ROTERDAM: Six-day race: third day: 1, D Thurau/A Fritz (WG), 106 pts; 2, P Sercu (Belgium)/R Pijnen (Netherlands), 243, one lap behind; 3, U Freuler/R Savary (Switzerland).

Motor racing

When turbo puts turbo to the test

By John Blunsden

In the world of grand prix motor racing 1982 is the year of change. There has been a change of regulations—small, admittedly, but welcome nevertheless as a first step towards rules which are enforceable and cars which are less like glorified "go-karts".

There has been a wholesale change of drivers—all but four of the 17 teams which make up the grand prix circuit have at least one new driver working for them this year; only Lotus, Renault, Ferrari and Fittipaldi (down to one car) are using last year's men.

There has been a change of engine for the world champion and his new partner as Brabham foresake their title-winning Cosworth Fords for the power advantage of the new BMW turbos (though they will continue parallel developments of their Ford-powered cars as an insurance).

There has even been a change in the political climate, and the South African Grand Prix, which marks the opening of the 16-race season this Saturday, will not, as last year, be a "renegade" race between the member teams of FOCA, but a fully-sanctioned FISA-blessed opener to the world championships. The prospects are intriguing.

It is a brave prophet who will forecast anything but a highly successful season for the turbocharged cars, which on paper must be strong favourites to win the majority of races, even though the world title could yet again go to a driver of a Ford DFV-powered car for the 12th (and almost certainly the last) time. It is all a matter of reliability and the unanswered question is how well will the front-running turbos, which have been showing increasing reliability when racing against mainly Ford opposition, fare when racing to the line against each other?

Rarely last year did we see the Renaults and the Ferraris on top form simultaneously, and when the Ferraris were strong in the engine compartment they were woefully weak in chassis performance. Their poor handling made them little more than mobile chicanes on some circuits, but the expectation is that their new chassis, benefitting from the input of the British engineer, Dr Harvey Postlethwaite (formerly of Hesketh, Wolf and Fittipaldi), will be altogether more competitive. There is also the new ingredient of the four-cylinder turbo-charged BMW engine in the Brabham BT50s.

Brabham took their time in bringing these cars to the start line (they have been development testing one for the best part of a year) but just when some rivals were voicing the opinion that Brabham had inherited insuperable problems, they seemed to turn the corner and recently, at Kyalami, they have been putting together the sort of lap times which render the record book quite irrelevant.

If their form is typical, the latest breed of turbo-charged grand prix cars have put formula one into the 200 mph category on any circuit with a long straight —a sobering thought.

If a turbo-charged engine fails to power the winner at Kyalami it will be the upset of the season, for the high-elevation track is tailor-made for forced induction, and to come third or fourth with a normally aspirated engine in such rare air on Saturday would be tantamount to a victory of sort. Elsewhere, however, the power differential will not be quite so decisive and many a race may well be decided on driver stamina and a cool head more than on sheer horsepower. Much will also depend on the relative success of the rival tyre companies to come across with the best possible equipment for their contracted teams, and it will be especially interesting to see whether or not Ferrari benefit from their decision to change from Michelin to Goodyear, who will be servicing a turbo team for the first time in formula one.

While Gilles Villeneuve and Alain Prost must be among the favourites for overall victory, much of the driver interest is likely to be centred on those who will be sitting in new seats this year. How will Riccardo Patrese shape up against Nelson Piquet, who has been the standard setter for Brabham ever since Lauda's sudden departure? How quickly will Lauda settle down and reveal his full potential alongside John Watson in the McLaren team? Will Carlos Reutemann, given undisputed team leadership by Frank Williams with a strong back-up man in Keke Rosberg, avoid the emotional crises which almost certainly cost him the championship last year?

Will Eddie Cheever be as overawed by Jacques Laffite in the Talbot Ligier team as his predecessors have been, or will he emerge as the most improved driver of the year?

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Arosa	130	180	Good	Fair	Good	Fine	0
Snow remains on hard base							
Crans-Montana	100	180	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	0
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Davos	100	220	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-2
Excellent skiing conditions							
Flaine	130	400	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-0
Excellent skiing on upper slopes							
Ischgl	130	250	Crust	Good	Fine	—	—
Ideal at 1,900m hard below							
Kitzbuehel	100	165	Good	Crust	Fair	Sun	-6
North facing piste very good							
Klosters	90	230	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Powder on north facing slopes							
Les Arcs	130	215	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	-1
Few worn patches on lower slopes							
Niederau	100	150	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Fine	-1
Pistes in good condition							
St Moritz	110	220	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-1
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Saas-Fee	90	160	Good	Heavy	Good	Sunny	-2
Good skiing on all pistes							
Sauze d'Oulx	80	75	Good	Crust	Icy	Sun	-1
Good high, worn low							
Tignes	200	300	Worn	Varied	Fair	Fine	-2
Pistes hard with moguls							
Verbier	80	200	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+2
Magnificent spring skiing							
Villars	30	145	Good	Crust	Fair	Fine	-1
Slopes icy during the morning							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

AUSTRIA	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Axamer-Lizum	—	110			-1
Badgastein	30	100			-6
Gargellen					
Hochsölden	40	230			-2
Igls	30	70			-6
Ischgl	40	160			-4
Kaprun	—	175			-1
Lermos	70	300			-2
Mayrhofen	15	70			-2
Mitterndorf	95	260			-12
Obergurgl	130	230			-4
Obertauern	170	190			-1
Saalbach	90	140			-7
Schruns	20	240			-1
Serfaus	80	210			-1
Söll	110	170			-6
Wildschonau	20	60			-1
Zürs	188	260			-4

NORWAY	L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Finse	—	120	Good	—	-1
Geilo	—	75	Good	—	0
Gol	—	70	Good	—	-1
Lillehammer	—	130	Good	—	-1
Norefjell	—	100	Good	—	+1
Oslo	—	60	Good	—	-10
Rjukan	—	80	Good	—	-5

SWITZERLAND	L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	50	100	Hard	—	-5
Braunwald	160	220	Hard	—	-5
Champery	—	180	Pwdr	—	-1
Chateau d'Oex	10	100	Hard	—	-1
Disentis	100	200	Pwdr	—	-2
Engelberg	40	190	Hard	—	-6
Flims	80	250	Pwdr	—	-1
Gstaad	40	100	Soft	—	-10
Kandersteg	20	170	Hard	—	-1
Klosters	70	230	Pwdr	—	-5
Lenk	50	100	Pwdr	—	-2
Les Diablerets	70	150	Hard	—	-8
Pontresina	50	120	Pwdr	—	-12
St Cergue	50	80	Hard	—	-2
Savognin	50	110	Pwdr	—	-1
Wildhaus	70	100	Pwdr	—	-5

Rowing

Olympic oarsmen receive suspension

By Jim Railton

Two of Great Britain's Olympic oarsmen — Len Robertson and Gordon Rankine — have been suspended by the Amateur Rowing Association (ARA) from competing for four calendar months in domestic or continental regattas from January 1, 1982. The disciplinary action arises over the oarsmen removing four oars and four seats from the ARA national squad headquarters at Hammersmith. The recovery of the equipment was the result of police action and the oarsmen were arrested at their homes last October and spent several hours in cells in custody at Wandsworth police station. But the charges were dropped.

The two oarsmen had until noon today to make an appeal to the ARA council through its executive against their suspension. In a letter received by the oarsmen from the ARA's executive secretary, David Lunn-Rockliffe, it is stated: "The disciplinary committee were in no doubt of the following facts." It then states that the rowing equipment taken was not part of that for which they had been given permission to use for a defined period; and police action had to be taken and 'both of you now accept that you had acted wrongly and irresponsibly'.

The two oarsmen are expected to refute the latter statement. They are expected to argue that they received permission to take the equipment; it was known by various people that they were in possession of the equipment; and that they received no direct request from the ARA to return the oars and seats.

Rankine handed over the equipment immediately when the police called at his home. The sport will surely be appalled that it was found necessary to call in the police and for two distinguished international oarsmen to be arrested.

Len Robertson of Thames Tradesmen Rowing Club has represented Great Britain in European, World and Olympic regattas no less than eleven times since 1970 winning a World and Olympic silver medal in eights.

Rankine (Leander) has represented Great Britain five times and reached two World finals in eights. A coxswain Richard Baxall (Thames Tradesmen) who was associated with the oarsmen has been exonerated. Robertson is presently training with the national squad at Hammersmith and their head coach Miss Penny Chuter.

Mr Robertson told me yesterday that when the police arrested him "he thought it was a joke until I was formally charged, had my tie and shoelaces removed and was locked in a cell for almost five hours." Rankine admitted that "I think we over-stepped the mark by not returning the equipment which was really an oversight, but the whole matter is really circumstantial and not a deliberate act."

It is really very sad that the sport which has achieved so much in the last decade at international level should be represented like this. Many will be angry.

A four months ban on the athletes would, in effect, remove them from the popular Head of the River race on March 20, which is a rowing festival carrying considerable prestige, particularly in this, the ARAs centennial year.

"If the oarsmens suspension is supported by the ARA executive they themselves may find some embarrassing cobwebs appearing out of their own woodwork" a leading Tideway club captain told me yesterday, in disbelief over the suspension. Many will feel within the sport that enough is enough and that two distinguished international oarsmen after years of dedication should be given the benefit of any doubt whatsoever.

Volleyball

Back with a creak — and two surprises

By Paul Harrison

The English season creaked back into action at the weekend, after a weather-enforced break which stretched back before Christmas, with two surprise results in the men's Mikasa Cup. Grandwood Rockets, from Nottingham, seventh in the first division, went to Kelly Girl Internationals, second in the league and cup finalists last season, and won by three sets to two.

And Weymouth Rembrandt took advantage of a home draw in their quarter final round encounter with Liverpool Cardinals to win 3-0, again turning league form upside down.

Now Rockets entertain Weymouth in the outsiders' semi-final, and Spark, from London, play Speedwell Rucanor, Bristol, the holders, in the other on February 28.

In Scotland, Tass kept up their challenge to leaders MIM in the Royal Bank national league first division title race, defeating Coatbridge 3-0. Coatbridge lost home advantage when the game had to be switched to Bellshill Cardinals' home court because the Coatbridge hall did not have heating. MIM's game was called off because of hall closure, also because the heating system was frozen up.

DV '81, a new team created out of the amalgamation of Dalziel High School and Volero last off-season, beat fifth-placed Kilmarnock 3-1 in an upset, while Paisley must have real fears of relegation following their 3-2 defeat by Falkirk.

In the women's league, the first three, Telford, Whitburn and Dodds Troon, all won comfortably 3-0. Telford beat Cumnock to stay in front. Cumnock are missing their experienced national team setter, Moira McIlvenney, who has been out eversince she tore an achilles tendon playing in the North Sea Cup competition in Norway in November. Her leg is now out of plaster and she is making good progress, but she will not be playing again before the end of the season and that is making an appreciable difference to relegation-threatened Cumnock.

Cricket

Test

From Richard Streeton
Madras, Jan 18

India finally gained a first innings lead of 153 after completing England's dismissal half an hour before lunch today. The precise margin of India's advantage was the only relevant fact left to be decided from a meaningless day's play in this fifth Test match, which was destined to be drawn from the second day onwards. It was the forth consecutive tame finish in this rubber and India, having won the first Test, are assured, at worst, of sharing the series.

In reality, everyone is already resigned to the sixth and final Test in Kanpur ending in a similar sort of stalemate. Conditions for batting remained perfect to the end of today's game and the players went through the motions in the later stages with the usual embarrassments that are inevitable in the circumstances. No other game, surely, can equal cricket for providing such long drawn out drama in some instances, or such pointless futility in others.

England, who began at 307 for six, lost their last four wickets for 21 runs, which in some ways could be considered a slightly tame surrender. In succession, Dilley hit out wildly in Kapil Dev's first over and the bowler insisted on the right from a bevy of close fieldsmen to hold an enormous skier himself. Underwood was caught off the splice from a lifting ball, Taylor played on and Allott turned a catch to backward square leg. Allott did not field later, to rest a bruised foot or England would probably have provided the third instance in Test match history of all eleven men bowling.

Kapil Dev took three of the four wickets to fall but the Indian bowling figures disclose the important role played by their two left arm spinners. Before the innings ended, Kirmani allowed a wild ball from Kapil Dev to pass through his gloves down the legside for a solitary bye which has to be mentioned. It was the first the Indian wicketkeeper has conceded since England's second innings in the first Test and since then England have scored 1,964 runs. Records in such matters are sparse, but of its kind it has been an unusual achievement by Kirmani, who on his form in this series, must be close to being the best 'keeper in the world at the moment. England's fast bowlers managed ten overs in the first hour of the afternoon, although there was a five minute hold-up while Roy went off to change trousers that had split.

It added to the overall tedium for the crowd, who only filled two thirds of the stadium, a rare sight in India where spectators attend irrespective of a game's position. Throughout the morning they relieved their boredom in one section by igniting firecrackers and throwing them about at random

In the afternoon they switched to pelting the English deep fieldsman with orange peel and other refuse. Underwood, at deep third man one end, was the chief sufferer and was eventually replaced in the firing line by Botham. To his credit Botham played an important part, as the police moved in restoring order, with various antics that kept the crowd amused.

Willis meanwhile bowled with full commitment and suffered the unusual indignity of being hit for six by Gavaskar over Dilley's head at long leg. The batsman helped a rearing ball on its way rather than launching into a proper hook stroke, but it was still a remarkable shot.

Willis gained his revenge, though, when Gavaskar was utterly beaten by a splendid outswinginger and Botham, low and to his right, held a fine catch at second slip. Malhotra came in next and he an Roy, both making their first test match appearances, gathered runs with style and freedom as the game became increasingly light-hearted. Each man hit a four when Fletcher bowled, but the last ball of the over brought England a wicket when Malhotra was run out. He played a ball to wide mid on, set off for a run, stopped, and then resumed while Roy did not move. Botham's throw was straight into Taylor's hands, which gave the crowd a further chance to applaud their idol.

After tea, Gooch kept wicket but once again it was Botham who made his imprint on the game. Yashpal Sharma tried to sweep Underwood but lofted the hit and Botham, at square leg, judged a swirling catch well. Kapil Dev came in next and stayed to the end with Roy, who by then knew that India had announced an unchanged 12 for the last Test match. Kapil Dev on drove Underwood for one big hit and was awarded six runs by the umpire despite signals from Willis, the fielder, and roars from the crowd, that the ball landed inside the field.

When Taylor was given his first bowl in a Test match, it emerged that his style is a mixture of gentle medium pace and slow full tosses.

INDIA 481 for 4 dec (G R Viswanath 222, Yashpal Sharma 140, D B Vengsarkar 71 retired hurt).

ENGLAND: First Innings

G A Gooch, c and b Shastri Shastri	127
C J Tavaré, c Gavaskar, b Doshi	35
*K W R Fletcher, b Doshi	3
D I Gower, l-b-w, b Shastri	64
I T Botham, c Kirmani, b Shastri	52
M G Gatting, c Viswanath, b Doshi	0
G R Dilley, c and b Kapil Dev	8
† R W Taylor, b Doshi	8
D L Underwood, c Kirmani, b Kapil Dev	0
P J W Allott, c Roy, b Kapil Dev	6
R G D Willis, not out	1
Extras (b 1, l-b 9, n-b 14)	24
Total	326

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-155, 2-164, 3-195, 4-279, 5-283, 6-307, 7-307, 8-311, 9-320.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev, 25.5-7-88-3; Madan Lal, 9-1-41-0; Shastri, 63-23-104-3; Doshi, 57-31-69-4; Gavaskar, 1-0-2-0.

Second Innings:

† S M Gavaskar, c Botham, b Willis	11
P Roy, not out	60
A Malhotra, run out	31
Y Sharma, c Botham, b Underwood	25
Kapil Dev, not out	15
Extras (b 12, l-b 1, n-b 5)	18
Total (3 wkts dec)	160

D Vengsarkar, G R Viswanath, R J Shastri, † S M H Kirmani, S Madan Lal and D R Doshi, did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-69, 3-122.

BOWLING: Willis, 7-2-15-1; Botham, 8-1-29-0; Dilley, 5-1-13-0; Underwood, 15-8-30-1; Fletcher, 1-0-9-0; Gooch, 8-2-24-0; Taylor, 2-0-6-0; Tavaré, 2-0-11-0; Gower, 1-0-1-0; Gatting, 1-0-4-0.

India's changes

India have made two changes for the final one-day international at Cuttack on January 27. Srikkanth and Azad, who have fallen out of favour since India's six-wicket win at Jullundur before Christmas, have been dropped for Arun Lal and Malhobra.

TEAM (from): S M Gavaskar (capt) D B Vengsarkar, S M Patil, Yashpal Sharma, A Malhotra, Kapol Dev, S M H Kirmani, S Nayak, Madan Lal, R J Shastri, Arun Lal, R Binny

Lesser lights begin to shine

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Sydney, Jan 18

Gathered in Australia at the moment must be 15 of the 20 best cricketers in the world. Of these, perhaps the one likely to find himself most highly rated among his fellow players if a poll were to be taken, would be Imran Khan. For his all-round ability and wholehearted commitment, he has won everyone's admiration.

Among the outstanding players who are here for the World Series Cup, Richards and Chappell have been below their best. Richards, incidentally, has been advised that after the end of the next English season he should have a growth removed from around one of his eyes. It is, if anything, a psychological worry to him at the moment. Holding is suffering from a troublesome knee; Lillee only occasionally follows one telling spelling with another; Zaheer looks scared stiff of the fastest bowling and Croft has lost his place in the West Indian one-day side. Haynes and Greenidge, both capable of taking an attack apart, have seldom done so.

In the West Indian side at the moment there is an easy come, easy go attitude, redolent of a drowsy Carribean day. Outwardly at any rate, their captain exemplifies it. Though still a wonderfully good batsman, and over the years a successful captain, his strong point has never been motivation. The most forceful of the three captains is probably Miandad. He is also the most impulsive, which is not always an advantage.

In the first-class batting averages for the Australian season, the only West Indian in the top 15 is Gomes. McCosker has an average of 90 and Gomes of 82, followed Miandad with 68. The next half dozen are Dyson (New South Wales) Wiener (Victoria), Darling (South Australia), Ritchie (Queensland), Crowe (South Australia) and Wessels (Queensland).

It has been the season of the lesser lights. Besides Gomes, Dujon has made a fine impression for the West Indies. In Brisbane last weekend West Indies were carried to one victory by Gomes and to another by Bacchus. The man of the match for Australia in their last Test was not Lillee, Chappell, Marsh or Hughes, but Yardley, and had it not been him it would have been Dyson.

Two of the less well known Pakistanis, Mudassar and Mansoor, have also made their mark. All being well, Mudassar is going to win a golden tyre, or something of the kind, for finishing with the highest "striking rate" among all the bowlers in the one-day internationals, which will show them up for what they are, often exciting, increasingly popular but a contrivance.



Imran, whose ability and wholehearted commitment commands the respect of his fellow players

Mudassar is a splendid fielder and a most determined batsman — but no more than a makeshift bowler. It was he who, against England in 1977, scored the slowest hundred in Test history. "A few years from now," wrote a Pakistan scribe at the time, "few will remember the result of the Test played in Lahore. But everyone who did see it or heard the commentary or read the details, will for ever remember Mudassar setting his glorious record of the slowest run getting in Test history and truly becoming the son of his father the great Nazar."

If Pakistan should reach the finals of the one-day competition — West Indies are already there — Imran and Mudassar are going to have to do a lot of work. Zaheer, Wasim Raja, Wasim Bari and Majid are all nursing player, it not quite as good as you might expect of someone who shares the record for the highest opening partnership ever made in first-class cricket, the 561 which he and Waheed Mirza made together for Karachi Whites against Quetta in 1976-77.

Of the other new faces in the Pakistan party, Ejaz is a tidy if unagressive off spinner, Tahir a medium-pacer who can bat a bit, and Ashaf Ali a moderate wicketkeeper.

While in Brisbane on Saturday I went to see Paul Newman of *Derbyshire*, one of the three Whitbread "scholars" currently playing club cricket in Australia. Unfortunately, by the time I got there, the ground was under water. Like John Barclay, the Sussex captain, who had to go home some weeks ago with glandular fever, Newman is cutting his Australian season short to return to England for treatment to an injured back. It happened soon after he arrived and he is keen to have as much time as possible without cricket, to give it the chance to clear up.

Two good things could come out of it. He believes that off a much shorter run he can bowl as fast as off a long one (I encouraged him in this by relating Frank Tyson's experience in Australia in 1954-55 when he halved his run and became twice the bowler) and in excercising his back he has built himself up.

As with most England cricketers who come to Australia to play and coach, Newman has found success had to come by. Over the years, only Greig, Boycott and Gatting have made an impact in Sydney. Emburey did fairly well in Melbourne and last year Richard Williams (Northamptonshire) in Newcastle and Kevin Sharp (Yorkshire) in Perth made plenty of runs. Paul Parke made a hundred here in Sydney a few weeks ago.

Richards' operation

Sydney, Jan 18. — Viv Richards has been told by an Australian specialist that he must have an eye operation this year. The West Indian batsman has growths on both eyes which can cause blurry vision. This could have contributed to his moderate form during the West Indies tour here. — Reuter.

HOBART: Sheffield Shild New South Wales 281 and 262 (G R Beard 67); Tasmania 345 and 135 (D C Boon 63, L S Pascoe 8 for 41) New South Wales won by 53 runs

GEELONG: Sheffield Shield South Australia 244 and 279 for 6, Victoria 160 and 252 for 6 (G M Watts 64, B Green 53 not out) match drawn

Women on top of world

New Plymouth, Jan 18 — England, led by their captain, Sue Goatman, moved to the top of the women's World Cup standings by beating New Zealand by seven wickets with overs to spare today. The victory gave England 14 points from five matches, two more than Australia, who have played two games fewer.

New Zealand batted first and scored 170 for eight in their 60 overs, a target which England reached for the loss of only three wickets. The elegant Goatman top-scored with 56 and was given splendid support by her fellow-opener, Janette Brittin, who made 41, and the left-hander, Chris Watmough, who contributed 51.

New Zealand batted bravely enough but were let down by their catching and fielding. Brittin and Goatman snicked five times through the slips from the early bowling of the medium-paced Maureen Peters. Four chances went to hand and were dropped.

Later Brittin, on 35, was dropped again by Pat McKelvey at mid-on and Watmough, when she was 25, snicked past the wicketkeeper, Edna Ryan. Had those chances been taken New Zealand would have pressed England much more closely.

NEW ZEALAND

B Bevege, run out	32
K Plummer, C Hodges, b Tedstone	2
L Murdoch, st Hodges, b Court	2
C Marett, b Blakewell	18
D Hockley, c Goodman, b Court	32
P McKelvey, run out	13
R Badham, run out	30
J Lord, st Hodges, b Starling	25
S Brown, not out	4
M Peters, not out	1
Extras	11
Total (8 wkts, 60 overs)	170

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-23, 3-62, 4-60, 5-88, 6-104, 7-157, 8-165.

BOWLING: Tedstone, 12-3-48-1, Starling, 12-4-21-1; Hultah, 12-0-30-0; Court, 12-2 34-2; Blakewell, 12-3-26-1.

ENGLAND

J Brittin, c Hockley, b Lord	41
S Goatman, b Badham	56
C Watmough, b Brown	51
R Heyhoe-Flint, not out	13
M Lear, not out	4
Extras	6
Total (3 wkts)	171

FALL OF WICKETS 1-77, 2-138, 3-155.

BOWLING: Brown, 10 5-2-25-1, Peters, 10-1-34-0; Badham, 12-2-37-1; Lord, 12-0-33-0; Marett, 12-1-36-0.

	P	W	D	L	Pts
England	5	3	1	1	14
Australia	3	3	0	0	12
New Zealand	5	2	1	2	10
India	4	1	0	3	4
International XI	3	0	0	3	0

Victoria fall to Pakistan

Melbourne, Jan 18. — Majid Khan hit a dashing unbeaten 78 as Pakistan hurried to a nine-wicket victory over a Victorian XI in a one-day match today. The game was arranged hastily to give the touring team match practice in case they are in the World Series Cup best-of-five final against the West Indies on Saturday.

Pakistan will play in the decider unless Australia win their last qualifying match against the West Indies in Sydney tomorrow and reach the final on a superior overall scoring rate.

The Pakistanis victory over a Victorian side which included a number of their Sheffield Shield players was sealed by an unfinished second wicket stand of 138 in 110 minutes between Majid and Mohsin Khan.

Majid hit eight fours and two sixes, one of which completed the win, while Mohsin scored a subdued 43 not out in Pakistan's 156 for one.

The Victorians made 151 for nine before their innings was closed, with left arm spinner Iqbal Qasim taking two for 14

Racing

Francome makes it look so easy

By John Karter

For the racing world and his wife it was almost like being reborn when the sport of kings made a mud-spattered resumption after a break of 11 days at Fontwell Park yesterday. It was the fourth meeting that had taken place in the past month, but the way that jockeys, trainers, owners and and punters greeted one another like long-lost brothers, you might have thought it was only the fourth in a decade.

One man who seemed to be totally ignorant of the fact that there had been any break whatsoever was John Francome. The champion jockey carried on as he left off — he won on his last ride, News King, at Newbury on January 2 — by scoring on his first two mounts, Dr Steve in the first division of the Burpham Novices Hurdle, and Sea Image in the day's most valuable race, the Peter Duncanson Trophy Novices Steeplechase.

Dr Steve had won easily over the course and distance at the end of December, and was heavily backed to repeat the treatment yesterday. His supporters had virtually no cause to worry throughout the race as Francome, who had ridden him to his previous victory, always had him well placed. Taking the lead before the second last hurdle, Dr Steve drew steadily away to beat his only serious market rival, The Disco Dago, by 10 lengths.

Dr Steve's owner, Tony Hayward, and Ilford bookmaker, said that the colt wolld be entered for the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham. He has beaten only moderate opposition so far, but has done so in style, and will be well suited by the soft ground that invariably prevails at the Festival meeting. Mr Hayward has had horses with Dr Steve's trainer, Nadine Smith, for only two and a half years, but has amassed a remarkable 15 winners during that short period. Mrs Smith, who trains only a horseshoe's throw away from the course, has not allowed the recent weather to freeze her into inactivity. She has been taking her horses regularly down to the sea at Climping, some six miles away, to exercise and her enterprise paid off because although her course specialist, Upton Bishop, faded disappointingly out of contention behind Stand Easy in the Sussex Handicap Hurdle, she went on to complete a double with her newcomer, Prince Bless, also owned by Mr Hayward, in the second division of the novices' race.

But back inevitably to the man who once again had racegoers marvelling at his condumate genius. Francome has the knack of making it all look so easy, and his ride on Sea Image, a horse who is still wearing his "L" plates at the jumping game, was a supreme example of National Hunt race riding at its best.

Francome had Sea Image on the inside nearly all the way round.

Fontwell results

Going: Soft

1 15 (1.16) SHRIPNEY CHASE: (Selling handicap: £818: abt 3m 2½f water jump omitted

PAYKDEBAN ch g Henry the Seventh — Bright Future (A Dean) 11-11-3 G Gracey (7-1) 1
Tight Schedule .... R Strong (100-30) 2
Baltic Love .... J Barlow (5-2 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: 66p; places: 17p, 16p, 20p. Dual F £1.31 CSF £3.15 R dean, at Maidstone. 15l, 7l Mac (10-1) and Old Smokey (12-1), dead heat, 4th. 11 ran.

1 45 (1.49) BURPHAM HURDLE (Div 1, novices: £812.40 abt 2m 2f)

DR STEVE ch c by Wishing Star-Tabankula (T Hayward) 4-10-5 J Francome (evens fav) 1
The Disco Dago .. S Smith Eccles (15-8) 2
Chummy's Best .... P Scudamore (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win: 17p; places 10p, 14p, 17 Dual F 16p CSF 3p Mrs Naeline Smith, at Chichester 10l, 12l, 20l, Darymoss (20-1) 4th 10 ran NR: Prince Northfields

2 15 (2 17) PETER DUNCANSON CHASE (novices, £4,822: abt 2¼m)

SEA IMAGE b g by Our Mirage — Dolphinetta (Mrs O Jackson) 7-11-0 J Francome (11-2) 1
Nookie Bear .... R Champion (3-1 jt fav) 3

TOTE: Win. 45p, places. 17p, 41p, 13p Dual F £6.46 CSF £16.87 F Winter, at Lambourn. 8l, 4l 7l Pay Freeze 3-1 jt fav Shane Hill (14-1) 4th 10 ran

NR: Upton Bishop

2 45 (2.49) SUSSEX HURDLE Handicap: £1345, abt 2m 2f

STAND EASY b g by Connaught — Parasseuse (W O Dwyer) 5-10-8 M Williams (3-2) 1
Great Developer .... P Scudamore (11-2) 2
Ur .... G Moore (5-1) 3

TOTE Win 67p; Places 21p, 23p, 25p Dual F £1 41 CSF £3.27, TRICAST £12.63 I. Wardle, at Wells Nk, 12l, 4l Upton Bishop 5-4 fav, Low Quay (10-1) 4th, 15 ran.

3 15 (3.17) HOUGHTON CHASE (Amateurs, handicap: £1,640: abt 2m 2½f)

BASH STREET KID b h by Mummy's Pet — Bashi (M Raphael) 7-10-0 Mr P Nicholls (9-1) 1
Grey Fusilier .... Mr O. Sherwood (5-1) 2
Persian Wanderer .... Mr C Bealby (9-2) 3

TOTE: Win 80p; Places 18p, 12p, 12p Dual F £1 23 CSF £5 33 R Hoad, at Lewes. 10l, 6l, 5l. Durham Town 11-4 fav Coolclancy (3-1) 4th 9 ran.

3 45 (3 49) BURPHAM HURDLE Div II, novices, £823 2m 2f

PRINCE BLESS b c by So Blessed — Pearl Star (T Hayward) 4-10-0 S Shilston (11-6) 1
Royal Swan .... R G Hughes (10-11 fav) 2
Hot Match .... S Smith-Eccles (20-1) 3

TOTE Win 33p, Places 14p, 10p, 19p Dual F 33p CSF 28p Mrs Nadine Smith, Chichester 2l, 20l, 2l, Front Desk (33-1) 4th 11 ran

PLACEPOT £4 50.

£220,000 aid for industry

A £220,000 scheme aimed at compensating the weather-battered racing industry is to be launched soon. Announcing the scheme yesterday, Lord Plummer, Levy Board chairman, and Capt. John MacDonald-Buchanan, Jockey Club senior steward, said it would operate in two ways.

First, between February 5 and March 25, courses will be asked to add an extra division of a novice hurdle to their programmes which would result in an extra 67 races. The Levy Bvoard will provide the prize money for these, with £700 grant to cover additional expenses. Total cost of the races would be about £100,000.

Secondly, the board will provide £6,000 prize money for each of up to 15 extra meetings between March 19 and the end of the jumping season.

☐ There is a "fifty — fifty" chance of racing at Market Rasen tomorrow. Clerk of the Course, John Lucas, will make a further inspection at 4.30 pm today.

"We have had no snow on the course for ten days, only frost," he said. "That is now slowly coming out of the ground.

STATE OF GOING (Official): Market Rasen (tomorrow): Soft. Folkestone (tomorrow): Hurdles Heavy Steeplechase Soft

Only a question of time before he wins coveted jockey's title

Scudamore's extraordinary will to win

On Saturday November 21 last year Peter Scudamore drove Goldspun into the last flight of the Aurelius hurdle at Ascot. The issue hung in the balance. The Irish challenger, Morton, was launching a determined assault towards the stand side of the track. Scudamore, realizing that it was neck or nothing, held the favourite with incredible strength and determination at the hurdle. The gamble paid off. Goldspun put in a brilliant jump and battled on gamely for a decisive win. As a result of this victory Goldspun is favourite for the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle, the four-year-old championship at the National Hunt Festival.

Scudamore is intelligent and articulate, as well as being a courageous and skilful jockey. "The race hadn't been run to suit us. They'd gone no gallop at all. If he'd got beaten I'd have come in with all the excuses in the world. And I knew we had to ping the last to clinch it."

Scudamore's quite extraordinary will to win has carried him to the top of his profession in a short space of time. On occasions he reminds one of Stan Mellor at his prime. Earlier that afternoon at Ascot the same characteristic had been in evidence in the jockey's handling of Leney Dual in the three-mile chase. This comparative novice had jumped slowly in the early stages and conseqently had left himself with a lot of ground to make up in the short straight.

Three other horses had appeared to be fighting out the finish at the last fence. But just as Bob Champion and Approaching appeared to have gained the upper hand, Scudamore came on the scene like a whirlwind from nowhere to take the race. "It's a funny old track is Ascot," he said. "They say you shouldn't make ground uphill from Swinley Bottom, but sometimes you've got *no* alternative." I remarked on how well John Francome rode the course. "Yes," Scudamore said, "He attacks it with incredible confidence."

The jockey's own favourite courses are Newbury and Worcester. "They are both flat, galloping tracks and extremely fair tests of horses," he added.

And here, perhaps, one could attempt to draw a parallel between Lester Piggott and Willie Carson on the flat and Francome and Scudamore over the jumps. Piggott is supreme on sharp and difficult courses like Epsom and Chester because of his clockwork mind. But tracks such as Newbury and Doncaster are the better test for a horse and tactics are not at such a premium. And Carson, day in, day out, wins more races on this sort of course than any other jockey because of his determination and refusal to give up.

So it is with Francome and Scudamore. Like Piggott, Francome is the complete artist and stylist. Scudamore, on the other hand, is technically a fine jockey as well. He has been riding with the inspired courage of youth during the past two seasons, and time and again has snatched seemingly hopeless couses out of the fire.

Scudamore's father, Michael, was a fine jockey in his younger days and is now a trainer. Peter has ridden since a child, often taking part in local shows. Educated at a public school, he first embarked on a professional career by spending a year with estate agents in Stow-on-the-Wold. During this period he was a successful amateur rider and used to do riding work every morning at David Nicholson's stables at nearby Condicote.

The first winner Scudamore rode was Rolyat for Toby Balding in 1979. He then joined Nicholson as assistant trainer, but after a few months decided to turn professional and concentrate on his riding.

Scudamore greatly admires both Nicholson and his wife Dinah. "David" "he said he has the reputation of being a hard man. So he is, to an extent. But his enthusiasm and drive are tremendous and these qualities communicate themselves to their jockeys."



Scudamore: following in good footsteps

Peter has ridden plenty of good horses, including Chinrullah, Connaught Ranger and Western Rose. His most important successes were gained on Broadsword in the Sean Graham Hurdle at Liverpool and on Passing Parade in the Panama Cigar Final at Chepstow. But both his and Nicholson's biggest disappointment last season came when Broadsword was caught on the line by Baron Blakeney in the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle.

Broadsword was supposed to be one of the bankers of the festival, and the gamble looked sure to be landed as the pair went clear at the last hurdle. Nicholson was so certain that he had won that he started for the unsaddling enclosure without waiting for the finish. After this defeat, Broadsword was labelled a doubtful stayer, but Scudamore is adamant that this is not the case.

"The Triumph is a funny race to work out as the form of the four-year-olds is difficult to weigh up. And as there are generally about thirty runners, half of whom have no right to be there, you have to lie fairly close to the pace to keep out of trouble. And then, when Mansky, the Irish horse, went for home at the second last, I decided to go in pursuit. So, in retrospect, I made my move too soon and we were caught by a horse rallying under a wet sail." The truth of this assertion was proved when Broadsword completely outpaced Baron Blakeney at Liverpool.

This season Broadsword was written off by many people as a Champion Hurdle hope after his defeat by Heighlin and Ekbalco at Newbury. Scudamore disagrees, "I am well aware of the danger of making excuses for beaten horses. But Broadsword is a colt and they take a great deal more getting fit than geldings. Although we only finished just behind Ekbalco we were struggling all the way up the street. I am reluctant to accept this as Broadsword's true form."

Scudamore lives in the same village as the Nicholsons with his wife Linda. Their first child is on the way. "My only ambition is to ride as many good horses and as many winners as possible. My hobbies are cricket and all kinds of sport and I love listening to music, both classical and pop."

The jockey has kept himself fit during the freeze-up by riding work daily for his stable. "Not only does it keep me in trim but I am also in touch with what is going on. "Nicholson endorses this: "Peter is a terrific help in the yard. He's a hard worker and adds to the cheerful atmosphere in the stable."

Golf

Fiori wins sudden death as he awaits baby's birth

From John Ballantine
Palm Springs, Jan 18

After one of the most dramatic finishes to an early tournament for several seasons, Ed Fiori, aged 28, of California, defeated Tom Kite, last year's leading money winner, by holing from 35ft for a birdie on the second extra hole of a play-off, the 355-yard sixteenth, to win the Bob Hope Desert Classic.

Kite had punched his second shot to four and a half feet and seemed the likelier winner as they walked on to the green. But in one of those sudden quirks of fortune that makes golf such a fascinating and frustrating game, he pulled this little life-saver wide in the gathering dusk, and it was all over.

After 90 holes of the five-day tournament, they had tied on a record-equalling total of 335, or 25 under par, the score with which Bruce Lietzke won last year. Kite should have won on the eighteenth hole of ordinary play but, after a poor drive, he laid up short of the green and, with Fiori hitting it boldly with a long drive and a three wood, the contest went to extra holes.

Fiori won the toss and, playing first, hit a beauty to three feet at the first hole of "sudden death" the short fifteenth, with an eight-iron. Undeterred, Kite gutsily followed him with another eight-iron to four feet. "I was really proud of that shot after Ed's tee-shot," he said. Both men holed and Fiori then administered the curious buit spectacular *coup de grâce* at the sixteenth.

Fiori had been concerned that his wife, Debbie, expecting their first child hourly in Texas, might deliver it during the round the baby did not arrive. "But it sure kicked around a lot while I was watching him win on TV," Mrs Fiori said.

Final scores (US unless stated): 335: E Fiori 70,65,66,67,67; T Kite 68,66,66,69,66; 337: R Caldwell 64,69,70,66,68; 338: S Hoch 68,69,69,67,65; 339: C Strange 67,70,69,68,65; 340: W Levi 68,68,73,67,64, M O'Meara 71,70,65,64,70 British score: 351 P Oosterhuis 69,71,67,74,70.

Miss Huke the odd woman in

Beverly Huke, one of four British competitors, was among 12 players who qualified for the American professional tour from a qualifying competition at Sarasota, Florida. With a final round of 73, she had a total of 305 to join four others on the highest qualifying score.

Catherine Panton had a final round of 76 and failed by one stroke on 306. Muriel Thomson scored 310 (75) and Christine Langford 323 (85).

Boxing

Hope at home for Minchillo title fight

Maurice Hope will have the advantage of a home crowd for his European light-middleweight title fight with the defending champion, Luigi Minchillo of Italy. The contest has been secured by Wembley promoter, Harry Levene, but the date and venue have yet to be announced. It could go on at Wembley on March 30, in connection with the European featherweight championship.

This fight will mark the return to the ring of the British champion, Pat Cowdell, following his narrow world title defeat in America in December. He also meets an Italian, Salvatore Meluzzo.

Kelvin Smart, Caerphilly, will have to travel to Oviedo for his European flyweight final eliminator on February 5. He meets Rodriguez Cal, of Spain

Four other British boxers are involved in European championships. Clinton McKenzie, light welterweight, is due to defend against Francisco Leon of Spain; Cornelius Boza Edwards has been named to challenge Carlos Hernandez Fraile (Spain) at super-featherweight; Lightweight Ray Cattouse meets Joey Gibilisco for his title in Pescara, Italy, on February 24 and Colin Jones fight Hans Palm for the vacant welterweight championship on Copenhagen

Athletics

Games under starter's gun at last

The will be no athletes' boycott of the Philips Games at Cosford, which go ahead on Friday and Saturday at the second attempt. They should have taken place two weeks ago, when they caused controversy after being called off because of bad weather but too late to stop many athletes from travelling.

The Midlands AAA later publicly apologized to them and offered to meet their expenses. But many disgruntled entrants, some of whom had made long and tiring journeys to Cosford, talked of not turning up when the meeting was restaged.

At spokesman for the sponsors said: "The Midlands AAA have been in contact with competitors and not one has said they are pulling."

CHICAGO. Indoors. Women: 50yd sprint: E Ashford, 5.64 sec (world best). Men: 50yd hurdles: R Nehemiah, 6.04sec; 50yd sprint: S Floyd, 5.34sec; Mile: C Aragon, 4min 04.2sec.

Sydney: Men: 100m: M Lattany (US), 10.66sec. Mile: S Scott (US), 3min 58.82sec. 5,000m: K Martin (US), 13min 40.88sec. Triple jump: W Banks (US), 16.89m. Pole vault: R Pudas (Finland), 5.40m. Javelin: M O'Rourke (NZ), 87.82m.

Hinault on tour

Milan, Jan 15.—The French cyclist Bernard Hinault will take part in the Tour of Italy race from May 13 to June 6. He won the event in 1980 at his first attempt.—AP.

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 In the Matter of G. & D. CONSTRUCTION (LONDON) Limited by Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 20th day of October, 1981

I, George Albert Auger of Messrs. Stoy, Hayward and Partners, 44 Baker Street, London, W.1, have been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company. All debts and claims should be sent to me.

Dated this 12th day of January, 1982.

G. A. AUGER, FCCA
Liquidator

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LEGAL NOTICES

No. 005334 of 1980
In the High Court of Justice Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of KENNINGTON PRESS Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Take notice that on Tuesday, 15th day of September, 1981 IT WAS ORDERED, that the following persons be and they are hereby appointed a COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION to act with the LIQUIDATOR of the above mentioned Company, namely:

ERNEST REGINALD GEORGE HUDSON representing BOB BURGE Limited.
GERALD McDOWELL representing CAPITAL PRINT FINISHING Limited.
EDWARD McCORMACK representing CLERE GRAPHICS Limited.
PETER TURNER representing JAMES McNAUGHTON PAPER MERCHANTS Limited.

B. MILLS
Liquidator

Dated 12/1/82.

In the Matter of V.N.K. JOGIA Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 22nd day of January, 1982, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Stephen Daniel Swaden, FCA of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London, W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 18th day of December, 1981.

S. D. SWADEN
Liquidator

In the Matter of SACKETT PUBLISHING SERVICES Limited High Court of Justice No. 003191 of 1980

By Order of the High Court of Justice dated 5 February, 1981 Mr Frank Stansil of St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street London EC2Y 5DH has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named company WITH A COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

MR. F. STANSIL, FCA

BOTHWICK INTERNATIONAL Limited

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday the 21st day of January, 1982 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 5th day of January, 1982

D. H. BOTHWICK
Director

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Wednesday, 20 January, 11 a.m.
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Wednesday, 20 January, 12 noon
COLLECTORS' ITEMS
Viewing: Day prior and morning of sale until 11 a.m.
Illustrated catalogue 80p by post

Thursday, 21 January, 11 a.m.
POSTAGE STAMPS: BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
Illustrated catalogue £1 by post

Thursday, 21 January, 11 a.m.
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
Illustrated catalogue £1.75 by post

Friday, 22 January, 11 a.m.
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Illustrated catalogue £5 by post

Monday, 25 January, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, CARPETS AND OBJECTS

Monday, 25 January, 2 p.m.
OIL PAINTINGS

Tuesday, 26 January, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, CARPETS AND WORKS OF ART

Tuesday, 26 January, 1.30 p.m.
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(continued on page 24)

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"... (JESUS said:) If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." —St. John 15: 7.

BIRTHS

ALLHUSEN.—On 14th January, to Miranda (nee Whalely) and Edward—a son.

ASHTON.—On January 14th, at Treliske Hospital, Truro, to Max (nee Weinberge) and Malcolm—a daughter (Ottilie Madeleine), a sister for Joel.

BARBER-FLEMING.—On January 16th, 1982, in the Stirling Royal Infirmary, to Jane and Peter—a daughter (Gemma).

BORG.—On January 15th, at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, to Caroline and Alan—a daughter (Helen).

DRYSDALE.—On 15th January at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Pippa (nee Kinmont) and Robin—a son.

DYER.—On January 16th at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, to Susan (nee Jacomb-Hood) and Anthony Dyer—a son (Benjamin).

FARTHING.—On January 16th, to Monica (nee Traylen) and Colin—a daughter (Elizabeth Dorothy).

GERARD LEIGH.—On January 12th, to Lavinia, wife of John—a daughter.

HOPKINS.—On January 18th, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Jane (nee Trotter) and Laurie—a girl (Lucy Sophia Victoria).

JACOBS.—On Sunday, 17th January, at Kingston Hospital, to Susan (nee Cox) and Francis—a daughter (Arabella Sarah), a sister for Adam, Alice and Amelia.

MYERSCOUGH.—On January 15th, at the West London Hospital, to Mary Anne (Stevens) and John—a son.

PURVES.—On January 15th, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Gillian (nee Beckingsale) and Roderick—a son (Alasdair).

SAFFIN.—On 16th January, at Barratt Maternity, Northampton, to Jo and Michael—a son (James), a brother for Katie.

SHIPWAY.—On January 17th at The Maternity Hospital, Cheltenham, to Sara (nee Martin) and Michael—a son (Oliver James Henning).

TAILBY.—On 16th January, at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, to Moira (nee Vella) and Christopher—a son (Laurence Timothy).

WALPOLE.—On January 18th, to Laurel (nee Ball) and Robin—a son (Henry William).

WILKINSON.—On 16th January, to Jane and Tony—a daughter, a sister for Francis and Guy.

WINAWER.—On January 2nd, to Rosemary and Jonathan—a son (Alexander).

WOODMAN.—On 31st December ...

DEATHS

KIRCHNER.—On 18th January, at Molesey Hospital, Bernard Joseph Kirchner, C.B.E., in his 88th year, beloved husband of Margaret, widower of Vivienne Mary (Molly), dear father of Joan Young and Pamela Bennett, dearly loved by his step-children, grandchildren and step-grandchildren. Requiem Mass at St. Barnabas, Vine Road, East Molesey, Surrey, at 10.30 a.m., on Tuesday, 26th January, followed by interment at Weybridge Cemetery.

LESSER.—On January 15th, 1982, Jane, loving and beloved wife of the late Henry Lesser, C.B.E., LL.B., and dear mother of Sheila, Mayer, and Laetitia Toeg. Funeral today at Golders Green Jewish Cemetery, Hoop Lane, N.W.11, at 3 p.m.

LIPSCOMBE.—On 16th January, 1982, peacefully in hospital Major General C. G. Lipscombe, C.B., D.S.O., adored husband of Diana and dearly loved father of Michael and David and his six grandchildren. Private cremation, no flowers please. Donations if desired to The Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, c/o Zoological Society of London, London NW1 4RY. Thanksgiving service to be arranged later.

LISK-CAREW.—On 12th January, 1982, Ethel Carew, otherwise Ethel Patience Annie Rose, beloved mother of her son, A. R. Lisk-Carew, peacefully at home in her 93rd year. Cremation at Norwood Crematorium, on 21st January, 1982 at 2 p.m.

MACGIBBON, HELEN ALICE WHITTINGTON.—On 15th January at Clevedon Nursing Home, aged 67 years. Cremation at Weston-Super-Mare Crematorium on Thursday, 21st January at 12 noon. No flowers by request, donations to The Spastic Society, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

MILLS, JOHN.—Peacefully in his sleep in New York City on January 18th after a long illness. A private service will be held in New York. Messages of condolences to the Frank Campbell Funeral Home, 1076 Madison Avenue N.Y. USA.

MILLS.—On Saturday, January 16th, 1982, suddenly in hospital, Alan Trevor, Chairman and Managing Director of The Star Electrical Company Ltd., husband of Audrey and father of Stuart, Caroline and Graeme, and brother of Margaret. Funeral on Wednesday, 27th January, at 10 a.m. at Breakspear Crematorium.

MOORE.—On January 16th, peacefully, Evelyn Mary, formerly of 16 Deerings Road, Reigate. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Reigate, on Monday, 25th January, at 11.30 a.m. Flowers may be sent to Stoneman Funeral Service, Doran Court, Redhill.

O'DONOVAN.—On 16th January, 1982, peacefully in St George's Nursing Home, S.W.1, Victor ...

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W8. Male, female share house. £31 p.m. incl 991 1312.

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RESPONSIBLE PERSON to share flat in S.W.1. £140 p.c.m. excl. Returnable deposit required. 439 0715 (day).

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SW1. Female, own room, luxury flat. £125 p.c.m. 834 1419 after 6 p.m.

HOLLAND PARK. Lovely single room, in large family flat. £38 p.w. incl. 727 8210.

EALING, W.5. Nr. Tube, 2nd girl to share comfortable pretty cottage. Own room. £135 p.m. incl. 580 6690, extn. 2835 or 840 3568.

ISLINGTON. Large room in luxury family house. £136 p.c.m. 359 6534.

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(continued on page 23)

Recruitment opportunities is featured every THURSDAY
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Spain and its language. 9.35 French conversation. 9.53 Spanish. 10.10 Look and Read. 10.35 Religious and Moral Education. 11.00 To Tahiti with Captain Cook. 11.17 Television Club. 11.38 Shakespeare in perspective: Richard II. 12.05 Running Industry. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart 12.57 Regional News (London and SE only: Financial report and news headlines with sub-titles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes Spirit of Adventure which looks at the exploits of explorers. 1.45 Bod narrated by John Le Mesurier and Maggie Henderson (r). 2.00 You and Me. For the very young (r). 2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Playing percussion. 2.40 Advertising. 3.00 Closedown. 3.15 Tomos a Titw. Welsh comedy series. 3.40 So You Want to Stop Smoking. Advice on kicking the killing habit. 3.53 Regional news (not London).

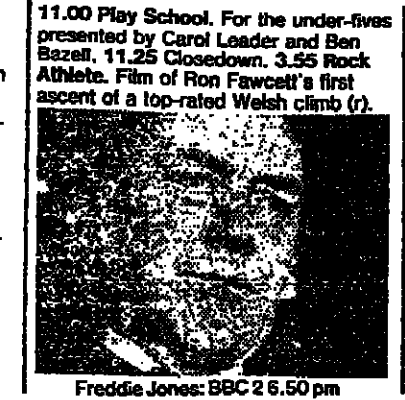
3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Cartoon: Secret Squirrel in Cuckoo Clock Cuckoo (r).
4.25 Jackanory. Joanna David reads part two of The Ordinary Princess.
4.40 Animal Magic. Johnny Morris looks at some home-made bird feeders and at the way baby animals play.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround. World news for young people.
5.10 Grange Hill. Drama series set in a secondary school.
5.40 News read by Richard Baker.
6.00 Regional news magazines.
6.25 Nationwide introduced by David Dimbleby and Frank Bough.
6.55 Cartoon: MGM's Little Cheeser.
7.05 Dr Who starring Peter Davison in part two of Four to Doomsday.
7.30 A Question of Sport. Bill Beaumont and Willie Carson lead two teams in a contest of sporting knowledge.
8.00 Terry and June. Domestic comedy series.
8.30 Solo. Felicity Kendall stars as Gemma, a lady with a mind of her own (r).

9.00 News read by John Humphrys.
9.25 Play for Today: Under the Skin by Janey Preger, starring Frances Tomelty and Jacqueline Tong. Polly is a fashion writer who thinks herself a champion of women's rights
10.40 444 Days . . .and Counting. Life in the Oval Office of the White House during the last five hours of President Carter's reign.
11.38 News headlines.
11.40 Taking Issue. Robin Day, Roy Hattersley and William Rodgers discuss the real alternative to the Tories.
12.10 Weather.

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: CYMRU/WALES 9.00am-9.10 Closedown. 9.10-9.35 I Ysgolion: Daearyddiaeth (1). 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales. 3.20-3.40 Closedown. 5.10-5.40 Rownd y Byd. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 7.05-7.30 Heddiw. 9.25-10.40 Welsh Sports Personality of the Year 1981. 12.10am News and weather. SCOTLAND: 11.17am-11.38 For Schools: Let's See: Weather. 12.55pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 3.20-3.40 Closedown. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 11.40-12.30am Omnibus. 12.30 News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND: 10.38am-11.00 For Schools: Green Peas and Barley O: Sheepdog. 12.57-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.20-3.40 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 8.30-9.00 As I Roved Out. 12.10am News and weather. ENGLAND: 6.00pm-6.25 Regional news magazines. 12.15am Close

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. For the under-fives presented by Carol Leader and Ben Bazell. 11.25 Closedown. 3.55 Rock Athlete. Film of Ron Fawcett's first ascent of a top-rated Welsh climb (r).


Freddie Jones: BBC 2 6.50 pm

4.25 Images of War. Gerry Massy-Collier tells of his experiences in the War Office Film Unit during World War Two (r).
4.45 Shepherd. The diary of a year in the life of a Welsh hill shepherd.
5.40 Undersea Kingdom* Part eight — Into the Metal Tower.
6.00 The Waltons. Shock-horror. Jim-Bob falls for a married lady.
6.50 Spine Chillers. The Flowering of the Strange Orchid (r).
7.00 News with sub-titles.
7.05 Film: Storm Boy (1976) starring Greg Rowe, Peter Cummins and David Gulpill. A simple tale of a boy, living in a remote part of the South Australian coast with his father, who makes friends with a young aborigine.
8.30 Toni Basil. A showcase for the talents of the American singer, dancer and choreographer.

9.00 Pot Black 82. This third match sees the mercurial Ulsterman, Alex Higgins playing the former World Amateur Snooker Champion from Manchester, David Taylor.
9.25 Arena: Private Life of the Ford Cortina. An in-depth look at the most popular and most abused car in Britain. Among those singing its praises are Sir John Betjeman and Magnus Magnusson.
10.10 Beardsley and his Work. A film that recalls his life and work. In it Brian Reade, Brigid Brophy and Ralph Steadman, together with a psychiatrist discuss the character of the controversial young man who died at the age of twenty-five.
11.00 Newsnight. The latest world and domestic news. Ends at 11.50.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools: Growing up in the physical and emotional sense; 9.55 About Books; 10.18 Simple mathematics; 10.33 English — Macbeth; 11.03 Basic maths; 11.22 Life in Viking settlement; 11.39 German conversation; 12.00 Button Moon. Puppet adventures for the very young; 12.10 Let's Pretend. The making of a play for young children; 12.30 The Sullivans. Drama series about an Australian family during World War Two; 1.00 News with Peter Sissons; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Take the High Road. Life on a Highland estate; 2.00 After Noon Plus. Mavis Nicholson and Glyn Seaborn Jones discuss guilt-complexes; 2.45 Born and Bred. Episode two and Molly Peglar tries to ensure that everything will run smoothly at the Ladies Licensed Victuallers Dinner. Starring Joan Sims; 3.45 Welcome Back, Kotter. Comedy at an American high school. Kotter's lecture to his class on marriage has an unsuspected sequel.

4.15 Cartoon: Dangermouse in part two of The Duel.
4.20 Emu's World. Adventures with Rod Hull and his pet.
4.45 CB TV — Channel 14. News, views and ideas for young people.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm. Jackie Merrick learns something.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.
6.20 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with news of self-help courses for young people with Spina Bifida. These last eight days and are organized by the Association of Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus.
6.30 Crossroads. Joe MacDonald hears some disturbing news.
6.55 Reporting London introduced by Denis Tuohy.
7.30 The Jim Davison Show. Comic entertainment from the cockney comedian and his guests Jim Bowen and Chas and Dave.
8.00 Don't Rock the Boat. Comedy series about a newly wed man with two grown-up sons and his young wife.
8.30 Top of the World. Inter-continental quiz compered by Eamonn Andrews.

9.00 Muck and Brass. Drama series set in the Midlands featuring a builder and property developer with dubious business principles and his brushes with the local council. Mel Smith stars as Tom Craig.
10.00 News.
10.30 A Small World. A documentary about the exploitation of third world labour — mostly female — by multi-national companies with factories in recently designated free trade zones. Alan Horrox investigates the detrimental effects the cheap labour is having on the countries that supply the workforce and the unemployment it is causing in the supposedly richer countries. Don't be put off by the jokey, juvenile beginning.
11.45 Superstar Profile. Reporter Catherine Laporte Coolen joins James Caan on a fishing trip off the Florida coast.
12.15 Close with trade unionist Jack Jones talking about freedom and brotherhood.


Annie Lambert: BBC 1 7.05 pm

CHOICE

● 444 DAYS . . . AND COUNTING (BBC 1 10.40pm) is a documentary — part cinema verite-on the last five hours of Jimmy Carter's Presidency and his battle to have the American hostages released in Iran before he officially left the Oval Office. Freelance cameraman Rolfe Tessem begins his filming at seven in the morning and already in the room are the President, his Vice-President and four close advisers. What is occupying their minds is the seeming procrastination of the Bank of England representatives in authorizing the ransom payment of $7.9 billion to the Central Bank of Iran. At the time the President was less than kind to Kit McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, and we are not privy to their telephone conversation which must have made fruity listening, but McMahon later gives his side of the story. Warren Christopher, the President's negotiator with the Iranians, links the timing of events and Margaret Jay talks to others connected with the release about their recollections of the historic day.

● THE ROW OVER 'LA RONDE' (Radio 3 9.55pm) is a reconstruction of the trial, in 1921, of the management of the Kleines Schauspielhaus (Little Theatre), Berlin, and the cast of a play that the authorities deemed obscene. The play, which had previously been officially banned, had been written over twenty years before by a Viennese Jewish writer, Arthur Schitzler, a doctor by profession. The prosecution followed an orchestrated riot at a performance in February, 1921, and it became a cause celèbré against a background of mounting German nationalism. Frank Marcus has translated the transcript of the trial and adapted it for radio in a way which highlights the political undertones of the case and his re-enactment undoubtedly captures the mood of puritanical oppression.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411 — Handicrafts.
10.00 News.
10.02 From our own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "A Living" by Guy Love.
11.00 News.
11.05 Play "In Love" by D H Lawrence.
11.35 Wildlife. Experts answer questions from the Devon Trust for Nature Conservation.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Quote ...Unquote †
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Women's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 A Pair Of Blue Eyes† (new series) by Thomas Hardy (in three parts).
4.00 Report South West. The arts in Devon and Cornwall.
4.15 Not that it Matters. A portrait of A A Milne.
4.45 Story Time: "The Chords of youth" by H E Bates.
5.00 PM.
5.50 Shipping Forecast.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Never Too Late† Thora Hird, Avis Bunnage, Megs Jenkins in "FETE takes a Hand".
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now.
7.50 Dartmoor. A portrait of its people.
8.20 Fighting Talk. A debate about the dire economic problems facing our universities.
9.05 In Touch. Magazine for the blind.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Legal, Decent, Honest and Truthful† Martin Jarvis and Sheila Steafel in a new comedy series about the advertising world.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" by James Joyce (2).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.
VHF: 6.25 Weather Forecast. 10.00 For Schools. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 10.45 For Schools. 2.00 For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Boyce, John Parry, Telemann, Schubert: records†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Wagner, Bruch, Mozart: records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer Haydn: records†
10.00 Heather Harper Concert: Strauss, Berg.
10.35 Ralph Kirkpatrick Harpsichord recital: Scarlatti, Couperin†
11.25 Vega Wind Quintet Recital: Poulenc, Ligeti, Francaix†
12.10 Sibelius and Wolf Choral and orchestral concert†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.25 Schubert String Quartet recital†
2.10 Busoni and Beyond (last in series) Piano recital:Bisoni, Wolpe, Benoliel.
2.50 Youth Orchestras of the World; Snape Maltings Training Orchestra: concert: Brahms, Bartok, Tchaikovsky†
4.25 Jazz Today: Charles Fox with records†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: with Jeremy Siepmann†
7.00 Stanford, Schubert and Donizetti: Song recital†
7.50 Elizabeth Sweyn, Widow: Short story by George Mackay Brown†
8.00 London Symphony Orchestra: Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London: Part 1: John Mayer, Strauss†
8.40 The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft by George Gissing. Abridged in four parts (2).
9.00 Concert Strauss†
9.55 The Row Over "La Ronde" A dramatization of the prosecutions that followed the performance of Arthur Schnitzler's play in Berlin in 1921†
11.00 News.
11.05 Shakespeare Songs by Hadyn, Green, Arne; record†

Gloria Hunniford: Radio 2 12.03

Radio 2

5.00 Steve Jones† 7.30 Terry Wogan† 10.00 Jimmy Young† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford† 2.00 Ed Stewart† 4.00 David Hamilton† 5.45 News andSport† 6.00 John Dunn† 8.00 The London Palladium Story (7) Pantos and Pageantry† 9.00 Boxing Special: Maurice Hope v Reg Ford direct from the Albert Hall, London. 10.00 Rolf's Walkabout. Rolf Harris wanders through the West of England. 10.30 The Hee Bee Gee Bees Story† 11.00 Brian Matthew from midnight† 1.00 Truckers' Hour† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music†

Rolf Harris: Radio 2 10.00 pm

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Reid. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Talkabout. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel. 12.00 Midnight Close.

World Service

World Service BBC World Service can be recieved in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times GMT: 6.00 Newsdesk 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Ploughman of the Moon. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Europa. 8.30 Pageant of the Past. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 the World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Discovery. 10.15 The End Of the Affair. 10.30 Musician at Large. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 11.25 Scotland this Week. 11.30 Sports International. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 The Rewards of Music. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News summary. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly good Show. 2.30 A Murder of Quality. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Sarah and Company. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 A Word in Edgeways. 9.45 Short Story. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland this Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Backtracking. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Joly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Report on Religion. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The King of Instruments. 2.30 Pageant of the Past. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TVS
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 5.15 Watch this Space . . . Lemon of the week. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm (YTV). 11.45 Entertainers: Iris Williams. 12.15am Company followed by Closedown.

SCOTTISH
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Electric Theatre Show: Anthony Andrews. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 5.15 Pet Subject. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Job Spot. 6.30 What's Your Problem? 7.00-7.30 Take the High Road. 11.45 Late Call. 11.50 1982 Butlin's Grand Masters Darts. 12.20am Closedown.

BORDER
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 5.15-5.45 Mork and Mindy. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.45 News. 11.48 Closedown.

ULSTER
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45 Does the Team Think? 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Lemon of the Week. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.45 Bedtime, followed by Closedown.

TSW
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Does the Team Think? 7.00-7.30 Private Benjamin. 11.45 Superstar Profile: James Caan. 12.15am Postscript. 12.21 Closedown.

ANGLIA
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Bygones with Dick Joice. 11.45 Fairport Convention. 12.25am Bit of a Pantomime, Closedown.


David Janson: ITV 8.00 pm

TYNE TEES
As Thames except: Starts 9.25 The Good Word. 9.30-9.35 North East News. 1.20-1.30 North East News and Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 The Riordans. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-10.32 North East News. 11.45 Travelling. 11.50 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN
As Thames except: 9.30am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30pm-1.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Two of Us. 11.45 Monte Carlo Show. 12.40am News. 12.45 Closedown.

HTV
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 5.10 Ask Oscar ! 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 News. 6.30 Arthur of the Britons. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28-10.30 News. 11.45 Amazing Years of Cinema. 12.15am Closedown.

CENTRAL
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Young Doctors. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 5.15-5.45 Mork and Mindy. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.45 News. 11.50 Butlin's Darts Championship. 12.20am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES
As HTV west except: 9.35am-9.50 Am Gymru. 11.39-11.54 About Wales. 12.00-12.10pm Y Llysiau Llon. 4.15-4.45 Camigam. 5.10-5.20 Mr Magoo. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30 Pethau Prin. 11.15 Small World. 12.30am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Does the Team Think? 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.45 Barney Miller. 12.15 Closedown.

GRANADA
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.45-4.15 Does the Team Think? 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.45 City of Angels. 12.45 Closedown.

CHANNEL
As Thames except: 12.30pm-1.00 Mr and Mrs. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Does the Team Think? 7.00-7.30 Private Benjamin. 12.15am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Entertainments Guide

Hint of aid for home-buyers on stamp duty

By Baron Phillips

The Government is believed to be considering raising the stamp duty thresholds on house purchase in the Budget, giving housebuyers some relief. The present £20,000 threshold, at which the duty is levied, could be raised by £10,000.

The threshold has not kept pace with inflation and more and more buyers have become liable. In 1974, for instance, only one in six buyers paid the duty, but today one in two pays.

The duty is paid on a sliding scale. At a price of £20,000 to £25,000, the duty is half of one per cent on the purchase price and it rises by another half of one per cent in £5,000 bands until it reaches 2 per cent above £35,000.

It is payable on the whole cost of the house if the price exceeds the threshold. For example, someone paying £19,999 would escape the duty, but someone paying £20,001 would pay ½ per cent on £100. At £35,000, the duty costs £700.

Builders are concerned that the duty, once considered a luxury tax, now catches even first time buyers. Since 1974 average house prices, based on Building Society Association figures, have more than doubled to £23,700, although that is probably a conservative estimate.

The Government last raised th stamp duty threshold in 1980 when it rose from £15,000. At that time, the average price for a semi-detached house was £21,647 and a modest terraced house outside London cost around £17,500.

A Treasury official confirmed last night that stamp duty "was coming under scrutiny and being considered as part of the Chancellor's pre-Budget proposals."

A rise in the threshold would cost the Exchequer little. The yield in the present financial year is estimated at £285m, compared with £225m in 1980-1 and £250m in 1979-80. If thresholds were raised by £10,000, the cost to the Treasury would be £120m, about 1 per cent of the public sector borrowing requirement.

On the other hand, a rise would be in line with Conservative thinking. Ministers, in particular Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, are keen to encourage home ownership and the Government's sponsoring low-cost private housing schemes.

Many in the building trade believe that even a modest £5,000 rise in the threshold would help to stimulate sales of new houses and flats. At present, some large builders are paying the stamp duty themselves to help sales.



Memory lingers of a riverbank rescue

Kelly Duncan, aged 22, a flight attendant from Miami, the only member of the crew to survive the Air Florida Flight 90 crash into Washington's Potomac River, is visited before being released from hospital yesterday by her father, Captain Jerry Duncan, a pilot with Delta Airlines (Nicholas Hirst writes from Washington).

Her rescue, by a Park Police helicopter operated by two men, has been constantly replayed on United States television. Clinging to a life-saving ring, dangling at the end of a rope (right), she was whisked from the icy waters of the Potomac and landed in the arms of the rescue teams waiting on the river bank. She remembers only being hauled to the bank by the helicopter.

She was suffering from a broken leg and severe hypothermia, her temperature having fallen below 90 degrees Fahrenheit. But by the next day she was back to normal at the National Hospital for Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation.

At first, Mr Lenny Skutnik, the man praised as a hero by President Reagan for diving into the Potomac and pulling a woman to safety, thought it was Kelly Duncan that he had rescued. Later, however, it became clear that he had pulled out Mrs Priscilla Tirado,

Frank Johnson at the Commons

Marooned in a blizzard of Welsh despair

Parliament returned from its recess yesterday. At the start of the sitting the Chamber was cut off by Wales. A dense, impassable blanket of Welsh affairs was the subject of the opening Question Time. It will be many paragraphs before this column is able to resume normal services.

Welsh Question Time is difficult to approach at the best of times. As a race, the Welsh seem peculiarly given to lamentation and to blaming their plight on others. That is perhaps what makes them so good in the chorus of the Hebrew slaves in their National Opera Company's interminable revivals of Verdi's *Nabucco*.

But yesterday the fact that the House had been away for three weeks meant that there were enormous, pent-up reserves of their national despair to be loosed off in the direction of Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, and his junior ministers.

So Welsh Question Time was even more Welsh than usual. The Welsh members, nearly all of whom represent the Labour interest, sighed and moaned their way liltingly through their well loved chorus, the central theme of which is that the Principality's unemployment, housing problems, relatively low educational achievements, infant mortality, and snow (some of the subjects touched on yesterday) are all caused by English Tories.

The Secretary of State for Wales was reasonably rational in dealing with all this. But, being a Tory, he is not really a Welshman. The Tories are short on Welshmen. At least his constituency, Pembroke, is in Wales. When they first had to fill the Secretary of State's office, after it was created by Labour in 1964, the Tories put in a man who sat for warm, emotional, Celtic, coal-mining Hendon, South—though admittedly he had the real qualification for the job, his name being Thomas.

Mr Edwards did his best. But his Opposition shadow, Mr Alec Jones, was the real thing. "What has happened in the last fortnight is something few people in Wales have seen in their lives", he bewailed. That was presumably a reference to snow.

That sort of shameless exaggeration is what we expect of a Welsh politician. It is what we, the English public, go to Welsh Question Time for. The Secretary of State replied: "Responsibility for dealing with emergencies in the first instance *falls primarily on the local authorities*", which is not the right tone at all.

We moved on to Welsh education. And Mr Jones could be heard sorrowing over the fact that under the Tories "900 less teachers are engaged in Wales".

If one might make an elitist, grammatical observation, what he meant was 900 *fewer* teachers. But, no doubt because of the English Tories at the time, Mr Jones endure certain educational disadvantages in early life. According to his *Who's Who* entry, he was forced to earn a living as a teacher.

Welsh Question Time continued without let-up. Experts said it could go on for days. Matters were not helped by the fact that the members taking part tend to be called, in the case of the member for Caernarfon, Dafydd when they could just as well be called David or, in the case of the member for Caerphilly, Ednyfed when they could much more easily be called Edna, though the member for Caerphilly might object to the latter simplificaton on the ground that he is a man.

Eventually, conditions improved. The House turned to Questions to the Minister for the Arts, Mr Channon. Mr Robert Adley, the Conservative backbencher and railway buff, asked if the National Heritage Memorial Fund could be used by British Rail for historic structures within its use.

Most of us understood that to be a reference to its train service. But apparently Mr Adley meant old bridges, engine sheds, and things. Mr Channon was sympathetic, but could promise nothing.

Later, Mr Arthur Bottomley, the veteran Labour member and chairman of the al-party commission which deals with Commons services, answered a question about the staffing of committees, but suddenly stopped, explaining: "Ah, left me glasses behinnd".

The former Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, seated next to him, offered Mr Bottomley his. Mr Bottomley tried them, but handed them back, explaining that he coul dnot see through them, which raised the whole issue of whether Mr Callaghan could, when he was Prime Minister.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Land's End eludes Trust

By Hugh Clayton

The National Trust is thought to have failed to acquire Land's End. An announcement is expected soon of a sale to a commercial buyer.

The trust has had no discussion with Mr Charles Neave-Hill, the owner, or his agents since it announced last year that it wanted to buy Land's End as part of the national heritage that needed urgent restoration.

The trust remains ready to launch an appeal to buy the 97 acres of coastline, but considers excessive the price of £1.75m mentioned by the agents last year.

Mr Neave-Hill is thought to want to make an early sale so as to give the new owner access before this year's tourist season begins. Land's End is one of the most potent tourist attractions in Britain,

Degrees protest by university

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Southampton University will not award any honorary degrees this year as a mark of its concern over government policy. It has also decided to abandon its spring graduation ceremony, though the summer ceremony will take place.

Professor John Roberts, the vice-Chancellor, said the decision reflected "our deep distaste for the foolish and ill-considered policies we are being asked to carry out".

Southampton usually awards five or six honorary degrees a year.

Kaufman says councils' independence at stake

Continued from page 1

opposed to the Bill, which seriously threatened the autonomy and financial independence of local government. Those proposals were a further move towards centralization of the spending decisions of each local authority, he said.

Mr Heseltine, however, told the House that lately there had been growing tendency for local authorities to levy supplementary rates. That had particularly unfortunate consequences for those people who tried to budget their family income and for those on low and fixed incomes.

Sections of local government appeared to be determined to scrap the traditional relationship with central government. Local government must recognize and accept the right of central government to set the level of expenditure.

The situation was at its worst where local authorities ignored the Government's requests for economies, increased expenditure and financed it by supplementary rates. Mr Heseltine added that where there was a clash between a local and a national mandate, the national mandate must prevail.

From the Conservative benches, one of the first signs of discontent came from Mr Charles Morrison, MP for Devizes, who deplored the parts of the Bill which attacked the autonomy and constitutional position of local government. He suggested that the proposals of the Government were a recipe for chaos and uncertainty.

Parliamentary report, page 8

More cars on HP

A total of 18,803 new cars were bought on hire purchase contracts during December, almost 2,000 more than in the same month of 1980. The number of used cars bought on credit, however, fell to 29.563 from 35,048 in December, 1980. According to Hire Purchase Information the total of all motor vehicle contracts last month was 66,034.

Jaruzelski fails to create alternative to Solidarity

Continued from page 1

doubt raly opposition to the Government.

The alternatives are to expel Mr Walesa—though this would create a powerful Solidarity in exile—or to hand him to the Church as a type of intermediate stage. But even if Mr Walesa were given to the Church, the Government's problems would not be solved.

Mr Walesa is still insisting on negotiating only with his full praesidium (most of whom are interned) though Mr Ciosek, the Minister for Trade Union Affairs, has claimed that initial talks have begun. Unofficial sources give an almost comic portrayal of Mr Ciosek's efforts to find an alternative leader for a reformed Solidarity.

The one union activist, who had challenged the radical Mr Jan Rulewski for the chairmanship of Bydgoszcz Solidarity, was called in before Christmas, and given an extravagant dinner by Mr Ciosek, having just been transported from an internment centre. The activist ate heartily.

The question was then popped: "Would you be prepared to assist in the formation of a new Solidarity that woud keep within its statutes?" The man refused, only to be hustled out before the arrival of coffee and cognac. He is said, however, to have been released from internment shortly afterwards.

Mr Zdzislaw Rozwalak, a former praesidium member from Poznan, recently admitted that he too had been approached by Mr Ciosek, as early as December 17. Four days after the declaration of marital law, but that he had refused to cooperate without the presence of the remaining Solidarity leaders.

Recently officially published interviews with members of the Polish Parliament (Sejm) also make clear that the trade union Bill, which anchors the right to strike, though heavily qualifying this right, is a very low priority.

Technology export curb, page 6

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagement

Princess Alexandra, as Patron, visits Headquarters of Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust, Blythe Road, Bromley, 5.

Exhibitions

Study of a Whippet, by Augustus John, Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, 1 to 5.30.

Alice, Lewis Carroll characters on show, Centre Hall, Glasgow Art Gallery, Glasgow, 10 to 5.

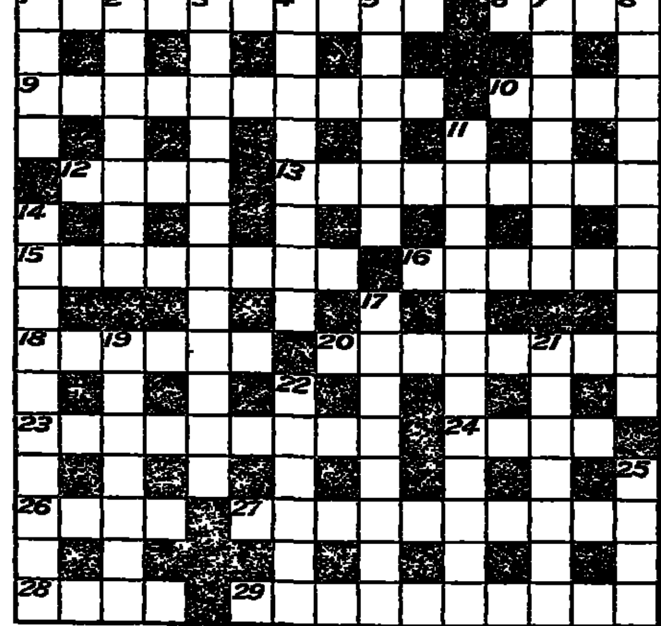
Bird art from United States, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, 10 to 5.

The Great Seasons, paintings by Sheila Mackie, Middlesbrough Art Gallery, Linthorpe Road, *Middlesbrough, 10 to 6.*

Brian Clemens: TV, film writer and producer, Bedford Central Library, Harpur Street, Bedford, 9.30 to 7.30.

19th century Victorian paintings, Roy Miles Gallery, 6 Duke Street, St James's, 9.30 to 5.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,733



ACROSS

1 Damaging a good tryer with such a report (10).
6 Saucy girl for harem — not married? (4).
9 Church's pardon for tippler's weakness (10).
10 Flower Nora ordered for Florence (4).
12 The rent's gone up, I hear (4).
13 A gift from the cheapest range so loses a friend (9).
15 Greases top-class sten gun, maybe (8).
16 Journalist returned on horseback holding it (6).
18 Colour key held by Jones (6).
20 Pit-prop may strike one as odd (8).
23 Act to stop official race-meetings (9).
24 Where a puncture might cause an ear-splitting cry (4).
26 Accustomed to us taking notes (4).
27 Rejected, say, from start to finish (10).
28 She was born free, but was subject for life (4).
29 Rich source listed (4-6).

DOWN

1 Talking-point raised, it's said, out of order (4).
2 Making free with many in the county division (7).
3 Le Sage longed for new edition of The Birds (6,6).
4 Italian figure in medieval style (8).
5 Repeat a quotation from memory (6).
7 Supporter going to town, OK? (7).
8 Minimum budget programme (10).
11 Essence of Franco-German alliance? (3,2,7).
14 Modern problem, to 23 colours on six sides (6,4).
17 Derv for instance contains second mixture of alcohols (5,3).
19 Stray old Roman thing found in excavations (7).
21 Involve me somehow with cook (7).
22 A man of degree altered his bearing in club (6).
25 Boss of an equine establishment (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,732

Talks, lectures, films

Your water rates are too low, Clayton Lecture by Bryan Oldfield, St James's Club, Charlotte Street, Manchester, 7.30 (for tickets call 061-832 5124).

Pictorial behaviour and the philosophers, Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, 4.45.

Cancer of the colon—a modern epidemic? by Professor C. G. Clark, Botany Theatre, University College, WC1, 1.20.

Music

Concert, Anthony Rolfe Johnson (tenor) and David Willison (piano/harpsichord), Arts Centre, Southampton University, Southampton, 8.

Organ recital, by Simon Lindley, Leeds Parish Church, Leeds 2, at 7.30.

Concert Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Assembly Rooms, Market Place, Derby, 7.30.

Organ recital by Colin Walsh, St Lawrence Jewry, Gresham Street, EC2, 1.

Amphion String Quartet, Bishopsgate Hall, 230 Bishopsgate, EC2, 1.05.

Sporting fixtures

Football: One League Cup quarter-final replay and nine League matches in England and two in Scotland (see page 21).
Squash rackets: Debenham's International Vase, Bedford.
Badminton: Ebbisham American tournament, Epsom.

Sport on TV

BBC2: Pot Black 82, 9.

Auctions today

Christie's, South Kensington: English and Continental glass, 10.30; wines, 11; old and modern jewelry, 2; costumes, linen and lace, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: furniture, carpets, works of art, 11. Sotheby's, Belgravia: pictures, 10.30.

Viewing

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: European oil paintings, 9 to 7; 9 to 7; furs, 10 to 4; silver and plate, 5.30 to 7. Christie's, King Street: English furniture; Eastern rugs and carpets; English and foreign silver, all 9 to 4.45. Phillips, Blenheim Street: English and Continental ceramics English and Contental ceramics and glass; collectors' items; British Commonwealth stamps; musical instruments; silver and plate, all 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Russian works of art; British watercolours; wine tasting; coins; European ceramics and silver, all 9.30 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: furniture; silver, both 9.30 to 4.30.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, second reading.
Lords (2.30): Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, committee stage.

Anniversaries

Births: James Watt, Greenock, 1736; Robert E. Lee, American general, Stratford Va, 1807; Edgar Allan Poe, Boston, Mass, 1809; Henry Bessemer, inventor and engineer, Hitchin, 1813. William Congreve died in London, 1729.

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Travel

Rail

Day-time train services similar to yesterday, with about 75 per cent of trains running. Because of tomorrow's dispute, no overnight trains, and passengers advised to aim to complete journeys by 10 tonight. For details of cancellations today and last trains tonight, call 01-246 8030, or station inquiry offices.

Roads

No major roads closed because of flooding, but burst main repairs causing delays in many parts.

Widespread fog throughout UK, notably in Kent, Midlands, and the North-west; speed limits an many motorways.

In Wales, a few roads still blocked by snow, including A4066 in Dyfed and in Mid Glamorgan near Bridgend, A4061 and A48.

In Scotland, A939 and B974 remain blocked.

Pre-recorded road travel information: 01-246 8031.

Roadworks

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures between junctions 24 and 25 at Newport. A407: Only one lane open at Johnson. A38: Lane closures at Marble Viaduct, Buckfastleigh, Devon. signals at Alveley, Shropshire.

North: A66: Traffic lights between North Bitts and Great Bridge, co Durham. A6120: Only one lane open each way on Leeds outer ring road near Weetwood Lane.

Scotland: A82: Roadworks between Glencoe centre and Strathclyde regional boundary. A93: Roadworks on Dundee Road, Perth. M9: Lane closures at Craigforth Interchange, junction 10 (Stirling).

Midlands and E Anglia: A5: Temporary signals between Weedon and Hinckley, Northamptonshire. A14: Southbound lane closures on Huntingdon by-pass.

Roadworks may be cancelled if weather becomes unsuitable.

Information from AA and RAC.

Sea

No Newhaven/Dieppe ferries because of Sealink dispute. Call 01-828 4142 or 01-834 2345.

Pre-recorded information on sea travel: 01-246 8032.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.75	1.67
Austria Sch	31.85	29.85
Belgium Fr	85.15	81.15
Canada $	2.31	2.22
Denmark Kr	14.65	13.95
Finland Mkk	8.71	8.26
France Fr	11.43	10.83
Germany DM	4.52	4.27
Greece Dr	126.00	117.00
Hongkong $	11.40	10.80
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.22
Italy Lir	2440.00	2340.00
Japan Yn	446.00	420.00
Netherlands Gld	4.94	4.68
Norway Kr	11.43	10.83
Portugal Esc	131.50	123.50
South Africa Rd	2.01	1.85
Spain Pta	193.00	184.00
Sweden Kr	10.99	10.41
Switzerland Fr	3.65	3.43
USA $	1.92	1.85
Yugoslavia Dnr	97.00	90.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International.

London: The *FT* Index rose 3.1 to 534.7.

Classical best sellers

Best selling records last week were: 1. Perhaps Love—Domingo/Denver (CBS 73592). 2. Domingo sings Tangos (DG 2536416). 3. Gala Opera Concert—Domingo/Guilini (DG 2532009). 4. Beethoven—Symphonies 1 to 9—Sanderling (HMV SLS 5239). 5. Holst—The Planets—Karajan (DG 2532019). 6. Beethoven—Violin Concerto—Perlman (HMV ASD 4059). 7. Mendelssohn/Bruch—Violin Concertos (DG 2532016). 8. Poulenc—Les Biches—Pretre (HMV ASD 4067). 9. Mahler—3rd Symphony—Temstedt (HMV SLS 5195). 10. Joan Sutherland Recital (Decca GRV1).

The papers

The Christian Science Monitor yesterday urged the US government to "weigh in with is own view of the Camp David accords, and to confront Israel and the Arabs with it".

Der Spiegel says Reagan has called for a fight to the death with the Soviet system, but Germans would be the victims: "Our sovereign right not to plunge blindly into a nuclear war is at stake", it says.

The Times/Halifax house price index

Monthly index average of second-hand houses (seasonally adjusted)

	Index	Average price (£)	% change over the preceding 1 year	6 months	3 months
1977 December	100.0	14.757			
1978 December	121.1	17.858	21.2	10.7	2.4
1979 December	151.0	22.291	24.8	9.6	3.8
1980 December	166.2	24.523	10.0	1.3	0.2
1981 January	167.7	24,752	8.9	2.4	0.6
1981 February	172.6	25.472	10.5	5.2	4.0
1981 March	172.9	25.511	9.3	4.2	4.0
1981 April	170.5	25.164	7.5	2.5	1.7
1981 May	171.5	25.304	6 0	3.3	0.7
1981 June	169.5	25,003	3.3	2.0	2.0
1981 July	167.9	24,779	2.5	0.1	–1.5
1981 August	165.5	24,424	0.9	–4.1	–3.5
1981 September	163.1	24,064	–1.7	–5.7	–3.8
1981 October	159.7	23,582	–4.1	–6.4	–4.9
1981 November	159.0	23,553	–3.9	–6.9	–3.6
1981 December	164.1	24,217	–1.3	–3.2	0.6

House prices in *The Times* Halifax index have fallen by 1.5 per cent for new homes and 1.3 per cent for second-hand properties during 1981 although the steady downward trend was reversed during December. Regions reflecting the largest falls were Wales, West Midlands and Yorkshire and Humberside. Reports indicate that although demand and activity in the market was at a very low level in December, mainly because of the weather, house prices have ceased to fall and there are signs of optimism for the new year.

Average regional prices of second-hand houses (not seasonally adjusted)

	Average price £	% change over preceding Year	3 months
North	16,130	–3.4	–3.4
York/Humberside	17,494	–2.8	–7.3
North-west	20,229	1.0	–4.6
East Midlands	20,360	3.4	–0.7
West Midlands	21,829	–2.5	–4.0
East Anglia	23,861	1.7	–1.0
Wales	18,953	–8.0	–3.6
South-west	26,696	1.7	–2.3
South-east	32,425	–0.5	–1.9
Greater London	32,556	–0.3	–1.6
Northern Ireland	20,390	6.8	–1.1
Scotland	22,584	3.1	–3.6

Weather

W trough of low pressure will weaken slowly; S airflow over all areas.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, E England, E Anglia: Dry, fog patches clearing slowly, bright intervals developing; wind S, light to moderate; max temp 6 to 9C (43 to 48F).

Central S England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly dry, cloudy; wind S, moderate; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man: Rain slowly dying out, bright intervals developing; wind S to SW, moderate; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Central, N, NE England: Mostly dry, fog patches clearing slowly, cloudy; wind S, moderate; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

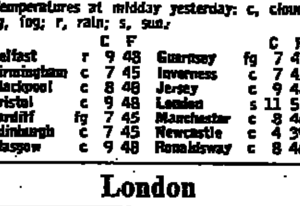
Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Outbreaks of rain, clearer later; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Rain at first, becoming brighter; wind S to SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Little change.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind S, moderate, locally fresh at times; sea mainly slight. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S, veering SW, moderate or fresh, locally strong at first; sea mainly moderate.

TODAY



Sun rises: 7.56 am
Sun sets: 4.27 pm
Moon rises: 2.44 am
Moon sets: 12.28 pm

New moon: January 25.

Lighting up time

London 4.57 pm to 7.25 am
Bristol 5.07 pm to 7.35 am
Edinburgh 4.48 pm to 7.58 am
Manchester 4.57 pm to 7.42 am
Penzance 5.24 pm to 7.41 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	9	48	Guernsey	fg	7	45
Birmingham	c	7	45	Inverness	c	7	45
Blackpool	c	8	48	Jersey	c	9	48
Bristol	c	9	48	London	s	11	52
Cardiff	fg	7	45	Manchester	c	8	46
Edinburgh	c	7	45	Newcastle	c	4	39
Glasgow	c	9	48	Ronaldsway	c	8	46

London

Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 4C (39F). Humidity: 6 pm, 78 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 3.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,019.9 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: London, Chivenor, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Linton on Ouse, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Tiree, 0.1in; highest sunshine: Hastings 6.6hr.

Satellite predictions

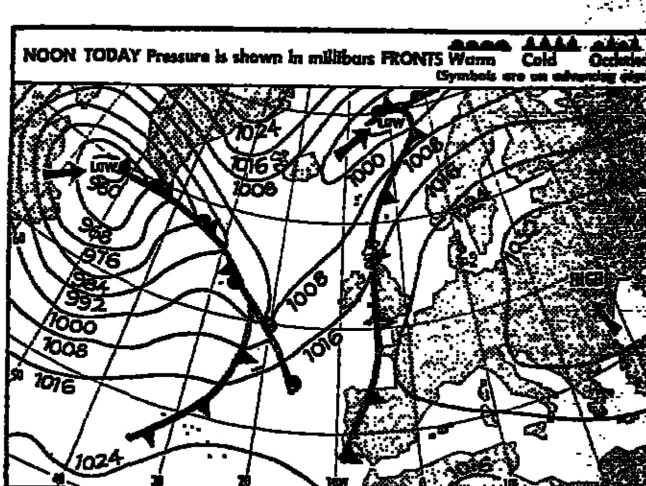
Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

LONDON: Cosmos 151R: 17.32-17.38; WNW; 40N; ENE and 19.10-19.12; WNW; 30WNW; WNW*. Cosmos 236R: (Jan 20) 6.14-6.17; WNW*; 60WNW; ENE. Cosmos 1286: 18.45-18.46; NNW; 15NNW; NNW*. Cosmos 185R: 18.11-18.18; SSW; 70SE; NE* and 19.52-19.55; W; 35NW; NW*. Salyut 6: 17.23-17.28; SW; 45SSW; E and 18.59-19.0; W; 30W; W*.

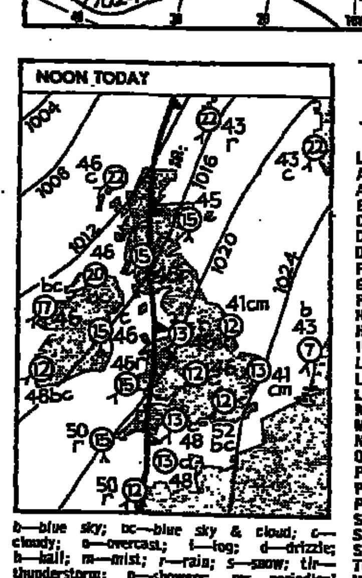
MANCHESTER: Cosmos: 151R: 17.31-17.38; WNW; 55NNE; E and 19.10-19.12; WNW; 40WNW; WNW*. Cosmos 236R: (Jan 20) 6.14-6.17; SSW*; 70SSW; ENE. Cosmos 1286: 18.45-18.46; NNW; 20N; N*. Cosmos 185R: 18.11-18.18; SSW; 50SE; ENE* and 19.51-19.55; WSW; 45 WNW; WNW*. Salyut 6: 17.23-17.28; SW; 30S; E and 18.58-19.0; WSW; 35WSW; WSW*.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing side)



NOON TODAY



b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.56	5.8	9.35	5.9
Aberdeen	9.11	3.3	9.31	3.4
Avonmouth	1.55	10.2	2.26	10.4
Belfast	6.52	2.9	7.10	3.1
Cardiff	1.41	9.6	2.12	9.7
Devonport	12.29	4.4	12.54	4.4
Dover	6.21	5.5	7.14	5.3
Falmouth			12.24	4.2
Glasgow	8.29	4.2	8.20	4.3
Harwich	7.11	3.2	7.55	3.2
Holyhead	6.03	4.3	6.29	4.4
Hull	1.04	6.1	1.57	5.7
Ilfracombe	12.57	6.8	1.30	6.9
Leith	10.16	4.5	10.45	4.5
Liverpool	6.34	7.3	7.04	7.3
Lowestoft	4.35	2.1	5.44	2.1
Margate	7.12	3.9	8.04	3.9
Milford Haven	1.20	5.2	1.52	5.3
Newquay	12.20	5.3	12.51	5.4
Oban	1.16	3.0	1.41	3.1
Penzance			12.10	4.4
Portland	1.22	1.4	1.34	1.3
Portsmouth	6.52	3.9	7.34	3.7
Shoreham	6.20	4.9	7.08	4.6
Southampton	6.32	3.7	7.06	3.6
Swansea	1.23	7.2	1.52	7.3
Tees	11.42	4.3		
Wltn-on-the-Nze	6.52	3.3	7.41	3.3

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	—	—	7	45	Fog
Bridlington	—	—	5	41	Fog
Cromer	2.0	—	8	46	Sun ints
Lowestoft	2.2	.01	6	43	Sun ints
Clacton	4.5	—	7	45	Sun pds
Thanet	5.3	—	10	50	Sun pds
Folkestone	6.0	—	8	46	Sunny
Hastings	6.6	—	9	48	Sunny
Eastbourne	5.2	—	9	48	Sun pds
Worthing	1.9	.01	9	48	Sun ints
Littlehampton	1.8	—	10	50	Cloudy
Bognor Regis	1.8	—	8	46	Cloudy
Southsea	—	.01	9	48	Cloudy
Shanklin	0.4	—	8	46	Cloudy
Bournemouth	—	.01	8	46	Cloudy
Poole	—	—	9	48	Cloudy
Swanage	—	—	8	46	Cloudy
Weymouth	—	—	9	48	Cloudy
Exmouth	0.2	—	10	50	Cloudy
Teignmouth	—	—	9	48	Cloudy
Torquay	1.5	—	10	50	Cloudy
Falmouth	—	—	10	50	Cloudy
Penzance	—	—	10	50	Cloudy
Jersey	3.6	—	9	48	Sun ints
Ilfracombe	0.2	—	11	52	Cloudy
Tenby	—	—	8	46	Cloudy
Anglesey	2.6	—	10	50	Sun ints
Colwyn Bay	2.9	—	10	50	Sun ints
Southport	—	—	8	46	Cloudy
Blackpool	0.1	—	8	46	Cloudy
Morecambe	2.2	—	9	48	Sun ints
Douglas	—	—	7	45	Cloudy
Aldergrove	—	.01	9	48	Rain
Eskdalemuir	—	.03	6	43	Cloudy
Prestwick	0.3	—	9	48	Cloudy
Abbotsinch	1.4	—	9	48	Cloudy
Tiree	—	.10	9	48	Rain
Stornoway	—	.01	9	48	Rain
Lerwick	—	—	6	43	Cloudy
Wick	0.5	—	7	45	Cloudy
Kinloss	—	—	9	48	Cloudy
Dyce	—	—	6	43	Cloudy
Leuchars	4.5	—	7	45	Sun pds

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F
Akrotiri	s	18	64
Alexandria	f	17	63
Algiers	f	15	59
Amsterdam	s	4	39
Athens	s	14	57
Bahrain	s	17	63
Barbados			
Barcelona	r	12	54
Beirut	s	16	61
Belgrade	fg	–4	25
Berlin	s	–4	25
Bermuda			
Biarritz	f	17	63
Boulogne	s	9	48
Bordeaux	s	13	55
Boston			
Brussels	s	8	46
Budapest	sn	–8	18
Cairo	f	18	64
Cape Town			
Casablanca	s	15	59
Chicago			
Cologne	s	2	36
Copenhagen	f	–3	27
Corfu	s	15	59
Dallas			
Dublin	c	8	46
Dubrovnik	s	13	55
Faro	f	14	57
Florence	s	10	50
Frankfurt	fg	–6	21
Funchal	c	17	63
Geneva	c	0	32
Gibraltar	c	13	55
Helsinki	s	–2	28
Hongkong	s	19	66
Innsbruck	s	4	39
Istanbul	f	8	46
Jiddah	s	26	79
Johannesburg	f	23	73
Las Palmas	c	16	61
Lisbon	c	7	45
Locarno	fg	–2	28
Los Angeles			
Luxembourg	fg	–2	28
Madrid	c	10	50
Majorca	f	17	63
Malaga	s	14	57
Malta	f	15	59
Mexico City			
Miami			
Milan	c	2	36
Montreal			
Moscow	c	–5	23
Munich	s	–3	27
Nairobi	f	26	79
Naples	s	12	54
New York			
Nice	r	11	52
Oslo	c	–2	28
Ottawa			
Paris	s	7	45
Prague	s	–9	16
Reykjavik	c	4	39
Rhodes	s	16	61
Riyadh	s	15	59
Rio de Janeiro			
Rome	s	15	59
Salzburg	s	–2	28
San Paulo			
San Francisco			
Santiago			
Seoul	sn	–4	25
Stockholm	s	–2	28
Strasbourg	fg	–7	19
Tangier	c	13	55
Tel Aviv	s	15	59
Tenerife	s	20	68
Tokyo	c	7	45
Toronto			
Tunis	f	16	61
Valencia	f	14	57
Vancouver			
Venice	c	1	34
Vienna	c	–7	19
Warsaw	s	–7	19
Washington			
Zurich	s	–5	23